¶ A true and plaine report of the Furious outrages of Fraunce, & the horrible and shameful slaughter of CHASTILLION the Admirall, and diuers other Noble and excellent men, and of the wicked and straunge murder of godlie persons, committed in many Cities of Fraunce, without any respect of sorte, kinde, age, or degree.

Wm Holcrofts Booke

By ERNEST VARAMYND OF FRESELAND.

¶ AT STRIVELING in Scotlande. 1573.

YOu muſt ceaſſe to maruell, my good cuntreymen of Scotland, that I haue cauſed this booke printed in our cuntrey of Scotlād to be published altogither in the English phraſe & orthographie. For the language is vvel enough knovvne to our cūtreymē: And the chief cauſe of my tranſlating it, was for our good neighbors the Englishmē, to whō we are ſo hiely bound, & vpon whoſe good Queene at this preſent, in policie dependeth the chiefe ſtaye of Gods Churche in Chriſtendome. I knovv not vvhat reſpects haue ſtayed the learned of that land from ſetting out this hiſtorie: Therfore ſuppoſing the cauſes to be ſuch as I conceiue them, I haue ben bolde to ſet it forthe in their language in our cuntrey. And you, good cuntreymē, that haue receiued ſo honorable ſuccors from England, and frō vvhence al Chriſtendome hopeth for charitable aſsiſtāce, muſt be content to yelde that this is framed to ſerue their vnderſtanding: Ye

English-

Englishmen our good neighbors, frends, brethrē, and patrons, I pray you conſter rightly of my labour, that my purpoſe is not here to offend any amitie, nor violate any honor, nor preiudice any truth, but to ſet before you a ſtorie as I found it, referring the confirmation thereof to truth and prooues, as in all hiſtoricall caſes is lavvfully vſed. How many hiſtories written in Latine, Italian & French, by Iouius, Paradine, Belleforeſt and other, are printed in Italie, Fraunce and Flaunders, and published & freely had and read in your land, although they contain matter expreſly to the ſclander of your ſtate and princes? Matters of that nature are publiſhed, the burden of prouing reſteth vpon the author, the iudgement pertaineth to the reader, there is no preiudice to anye part, Bokes are extant on both parts. The very treatiſes of diuinitie are not al vvarāted that be printed, you muſt take it as it is, onely for matter of reporte on the one parte, ſo farre to binde credit as it carieth

euidence to furnish your vnderſtandings, as other bokes do that make rehearſals of the actes & ſtates of princes, cõmõ weales and peoples. But howſoeuer it be, good Englishmen, thanke God that you haue ſuch a ſoueraigne, vnder vvhõ you ſuffer no ſuch things, & by the noble & ſincere aide that your good Queene hath giuen vs in Scotland, I pray you gather a comfortable confidẽce, that in reſpect of ſuch honorable charitie to his church in Scotland, god vvil not ſuffer you at your nede to be ſuccorleſſe in England, as by dayly miracles in preſeruing your Queene he hath plainly shevved: and the rather ye may truſt hereof, if ye be thankeful and faithful to God & hir, & that ye pray hartily to God, either by mediate operation of your Queenes iuſtice, or by his ovvne immediate hand vvorking, to deliuer his church & people frõ the cõmon perill to both theſe realms, & to the ſtate of al true religiõ in chriſtẽdome. Farewel, and God long preſerue bothe your good and oure hopeful ſoueraigne to his glory. Amen.

A declaration of the furious outrages of Fraunce, vvith the slaughter of the Admiral.

IT were to be wished that the memorie of the fresh slaughters and of that butcherly murthering that hathe lately bene committed in a manner in all the townes of Fraunce, were vtterly put out of the minds of men: for so great dishonor and so greate infamie hath thereby stayned the whole Frēch nation, that the most part of them are now ashamed of their owne countrey, defiled with two most filthy spottes, falsehode and crueltie, of the which, whether hath bene the greater, it is hard to say. But forasmuche as there flee euery where abroade Pamphlets written by flatterers of the Courte, and men corruptly hired for reward, which do most shamefully set out things fayned and falsely imagined, in stead of truth, I thoughte my selfe bound to do this seruice to posteritie, to put the matter in writing as it was truely done in dede, being wel enabled to haue knowledge thereof, both by mine owne calamitie, and by those that with their owne eyes beheld

a great part of the ſame ſlaughters.

In the yeare of our Lord. 1561. when there ſeemed to be ſome perill of troubles to ariſe by reaſon of the multitude of ſuche as embraced the Religion (which they cal reformed (for before that time the vſuall manner of puniſhing ſuch as durſt profeſſe that Religion, was beſides loſſe and forfeyture of all their goods to the Kings vſe, to burne their bodies) at the requeſt of the great Lordes and nobilitie there was holden an aſſemblie of the eſtates in the Kings houſe at Saint Germaines in Lay, neare to the towne of Paris, at which aſſemblie, in preſence, and with the royall aſſente of King Charles the ninth, which now raigneth, it was decreed, that from thencefoorth it ſhoulde not be preiudicaill to any man to profeſſe the ſaid Religion, and that it ſhould be leefull for thē to haue publique metings and preachings for the exerciſe thereof, but in the ſuburbs of townes only.

At this aſſemblie, Francis Duke of Guiſe, being deſcended of the houſe of Loraine, and at that time Grand maſter of the Kings houſhold, was not preſent. But when he was enformed of this decree, he boyled with incredible ſorow and anger, and within few dayes

after

after at a little town in Champagne called Vaſſey, while the profeſſors of the ſaide Religion were there at a Sermon, he accompanied with a band of ſouldiers, ſet vppon them, and ſlewe men and women to the number of two hundreth.

There was amõg theſe of the Religion (for ſo hereafter according to the vſuall phraſe of the french tong we intend to call them) Lewes of Burbon of the bloud royall, commonly called Prince of Conde, after the name of a certaine towne, a man of great power by reaſon of his kinred to the King. Therefore when the Duke of Guiſe moſt vehemently ſtriued againſt that lawe, and as much as in him lay, did vtterly ouerthrowe it, and troubled the common quiet thereby ſtabliſhed, Gaſpar de Coligni Admirall of France, and Francis d'Andelot his brother, Captaine of the Fantarie, and other Princes, noble men and Gentlemen of the ſame Religion, come dayly by heapes to the Prince of Conde, to complaine of the outragious boldneſſe and vntemperate violence of the Duke of Guiſe.

At that time Catherine de Medices Pope Clements brothers daughter, and mother of King Charles, borne in Florence a Citie of Italie,

talie, had the gouernance of the Realme in the Kings minoritie. For though by the lawe of Fraunce, neither the inheritance nor the administration of the realme is graunted to women, yet through the cowardly negligence of Anthonie King of Nauarre, the said Catherine de Medices the kings mother, against the custome of the realme, was ioyned with him in that office of protectorship. She fearing the presumption and fierce pride of the Guisians, wrote to the Prince of Conde with hir owne hād: which letters are yet remayning, and at the assemblie of the Princes of Germanie at Franckforde, holdē vnder Ferdinand the Emperoure, were produced and openly read about ten yeares past: wherein she earnestly besought, him in so gret hardnesse and distresse not to forsake hir, but to account both the mother and the children, that is, both hir selfe and the King, and the Kings brethren, committed to his faith and naturall kindnesse, and that he should with all speede, prouide for their common safetie: assuring him, that she would so imprint in the Kings mind his trauell taken in that behalfe, that he should neuer be loser by it.

VVithin few dayes after the Duke of Guise wel knowing how great authoritie the name of

the King would carie in Fraunce, and to the intent that he would not seeme to attempt anye thing rather of his owne head than by the priuitie of the King, and hauing atteyned fit partners to ioyne with him in these enterprises, he got the King into his power. VVhich thing being knowne abrode, and manye hard encombrances therevpon sodaynely rising, and a great part of the nobilitie of Fraunce maruellously troubled with it, the Prince of Conde by aduise of his friends, thought it best for him to take certaine townes and furnishe them with garrisons: which was the beginning of the first ciuill warre. For the Prince of Conde alleaged the cause of his taking armour, to be the defence of the Kings Edict, wherein consisted the safetie of the common weale, and that it could not be repealed without most assured vndoyng of the nation of Fraunce, and destruction of the nobilitie, by reason of the exceeding great multitude of those that daylie ioyned themselues to that Religion. Of which number suche as being of noble birthe, were in power, dignitie, wealth, and credite aboue the rest, thoughte it not meete for them to suffer the punishments and crueltie accustomed to be extended vpon the professors thereof, beside that, they helde

them discontented that the Duke of Guise a newe come, a straunger translated from the forests of Loraine into Fraunce, did take vpō him in Fraunce so great courage and so high dominion & power. Therto was added the Queene mothers singular care (as was reported) for conseruation of peace and repressing the rage of the Guisians. Vpon which opinion it is certayne that aboue twentie thousande men hauing regarde onelye to the Queenes inclination, ioyned themselues to the side of those of the Religion, and to the defence of their profession, whiche at that time had besieged the force of the Kings power.

After certayne battayles and manye losses on both partes, and the Duke of Guise slaine, within a yeere peace was made with this condition, that they of the Religion shoulde haue free libertie thereof, and shoulde haue assemblies and preachings for the exercise of the same in certeyne places.

This peace continued in force, but not in all places, during fyue yeeres: for in the most townes & iurisdictions, the Officers that were affectionate to the Romishe side, whom they commonly call Catholikes, did all the displeasures they could to those of the Religiō. Therfore,

fore, when Ferdinando Aluáres de Toledo, commonly called Duke of Alua, was leading an armie not farre from the frontiers of Fraunce, againſt thoſe of the lowe countrey which embraced the reformed Religion, againſte the wyll of the Kyng of Spayne; the Queene mother cauſed to be leuied and brought into Fraunce ſixe thouſande Switzers for a defence, as ſhe cauſed it to be bruted, but as the ſucceſſe hath proued, for this intent, that the Prince of Conde, the Admirall and other noble men of the Religion, if they eſcaped the treaſons prepared for them, and liked to defende themſelues by force, and trie it by battayle, might be ſodaynely oppreſſed ere they were prouided. For the courtiers whiche then had the managing of theſe matters, dyd not at that time well truſt the ſouldiers of Fraunce. Many things pertayning to the courſe of that time, and the renewing of the warre, muſt here for haſt to our preſent purpoſe be neceſſarily omitted.

VVhē the warre had endured about ſixe moneths, peace was made with the ſame coditions that we haue aboue rehearſed, that all men ſhould haue free libertie to follow and profeſſe the Religion reformed. For this was euer one

and the laſt condition vpon all the warres. But within fewe dayes or monethes after, it was playnly vnderſtoode, that the ſame peace was full of guile and treaſon, and finally, that it was no peace, but moſt cruell warre cloaked vnder the name of peace. For forthwyth all thoſe townes which they of the Religion had yelded vp, were poſſeſſed and ſtrengthened with garriſons of ſouldiers of the contrary ſide, ſauing onely one towne on the ſea coaſt in the partes of Xantoigne commonly called Rochell. For the men of that towne aboute two hundreth yeares paſt had yelded themſelues to the Kings power and allegeance, with this condition, that they ſhould neuer be conſtrayned agaynſt their will to receyue any garriſon ſouldiers.

Alſo the Prince of Conde and the Admirall were aduertiſed, that there was treaſon agayne prepared to entrap them by Tauaignes, a man giué to murther and miſchiefe, which had lately bene made Marſhall of Fraunce, and that if they did not ſpedely auoyde the ſame, it ſhould ſhortly come to paſſe, that they ſhould be deceyued and taken by him, and deliuered vp to the crueltie of their aduerſaries.

Vpon the receyt of theſe aduertiſementes, they immediatly make haſt to Rochell, carying

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with them their wiues and yong childrẽ, which was the beginning of the third ciuill warre, the moſt ſharpe and miſerable of all the reſt.

There was at that time in the court, Charles Cardinall of Loraine, brother to the Duke of Guiſe, which (as is aboue ſayde,) was ſlayne in the firſt warre, one accompted moſt ſubtill and craftie of all the reſt, but of a terrible, cruell and troubleſome diſpoſition, ſo as he was thought intollerable euen at Rome it ſelfe. This man, they of the reformed Religion reported to be the moſte ſharpe and hatefull enimye of their profeſsion, and him they abhorred aboue all other for the crueltie of his nature, and named him the firebrande of all ciuill flames. He at the beginning of the third ciuill warre, perſuaded the King to publiſh an Edict, that no man profeſſe any Religion but the Romiſhe or Popiſh, and that whoſoeuer wold embrace any other, ſhould be compted as traytours. In that ſame Edict Printed at Paris, this ſentence was expreſſely conteyned, and for the ſtrangeneſſe of the matter, and for that it ſtayned the Kyngs name with the moſt diſhonorable ſpot of periurie and breache of faith, it was in other impreſsions afterwarde omitted. And it was further then declared, that albeit the King had in

manye Edictes before that time permitted the freedome of Religion, yet his meaning euer was to reteyne and cause to be reteyned of all men, the onely Romishe or Popishe Religion within his Realme.

After manie ouerthrowes on both partes giuen and receyued, whereas the ende of this thirde warre was thought likely to be the harder, by reason of the breache of fayth in the yeeres before, and on the other side the state of the Realme by reason of the wast that the Cities were broughte vnto, and the extreme pouertie of the meane people and husbandmen, did require some treatie of composition, the King sent messangers to the Admirall, to signifie vnto him in the Kings name, that the King himselfe had at length founde out a most sure way of peace and concorde, namely that the armies of both partes ioyned togither, shoulde goe into the lowe countrey against the Duke of Alua, which had been the author of the late calamities in Fraunce. He signified further, that he had great causes of querels against the king of Spayne, and this principally, that he had inuaded and helde by force, sodenlye slaying all the souldyers there, an Island of the newfound world, called Florida, which had been taken by

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the French and kept vnder his dominion: and likewise the Marquesdome of Finall, the inhabitantes whereof had but a little ryme before yelded themselues to the Kings subiection and allegeance. He said that the most stedfast band of concorde shoulde be that forein warre, and that there could no other better meane be deuised to drowne the memorie of the former diffentions in eternall forgetfulnesse.

To the performance hereof, he sayd it was a matter of most apte opportunitie, that Lodouic counte of Nassaw, brother to the Prince of Aurenge, had been nowe two yeeres in the Admiralls camp, to whome the Admirall gaue principall credit in all things, and that by him and his fellowes of the lowe countrey, and other whom he vnderstoode to fauour his part, it might easily be broughte to passe that certayne Cities mighte be surprised, and thereby great aduantage be attayned to the atchiuing of the warre.

The Admirall hearyng these thynges was maruellously troubled. For albeit he doubted not of the Kings fidelitie, yet therwithall many things fell into his minde to be considered: as the power of the Cardinall and the rest of the Guisians, who were well knowne to haue ben

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at all times moſt affectionate to the Kyng of Spayne. For the Duke of Guiſe had left a ſonne, a very yong man, called Henry, to whō the Queene had giuen all the offices and places of honor that his father had borne before, beyng vnfit thereto by age, and againſt the ancient lawes and cuſtomes, and alſo through the traiterous infidelitie of certayne of the Kings counſaylers, whome she knew for their affection to Popiſh Religion to be moſt addicted to the Spaniſhe King, and that diuers of them had great yeerely penſions of him, and did diſcloſe vnto him the affaires of the Realme. He remembred howe hereby it came to paſſe, that the ſame Kings Embaſſador (whiche among ſtrange nations ſeemed vtterly incredible) was admitted into the priuie Counſell of Fraunce, and that one Biragio a Lumbard, and (as it is reported) a traytour to his owne countrey, otherwiſe altogither vnlearned, and ſpecially ignoraunt of the ciuill lawe, was yet for the ſubtiltie of his witte aduanced to ſo great honour, that he executed the Chauncellers office, Michael Hoſpitall being diſplaced, a man knowne to be ſuch a one, as there was not in all degrees of men any eyther more wiſe, or more learned, or more zelouſly louing his countrey.

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Herewithall he considered the slaunderous cauillations of his aduersaryes, to whome hereby might seme an occasion giuen, as if the Admirall were of a troublesome nature, and coulde not abide any quietnesse, nor could long reste at home without some tumultuous stir. Hereunto the messangers replyed as they were able, and therewithall alleaged this cause of so sodayne hatred against the Spanishe King, that one Albenie late returned out of Spaine, had infourmed the King and the Queene mother for certaintie, that King Philip a few moneths before, had poysoned his wife the Frenche Kings sister, and had spred rumors of hir thoroughout all Spaine, such as for the honour of manye persons are meete not to be disclosed. But nothing moued the Admirall so much as the cherefull earnestnesse of Lodouic of Nassaw, who as sone as he was aduertised of that purpose of the King, omitted nothing that he thought mighte serue to encourage the Admirall therevnto.

The Admirall perswaded hereby, nothing fearing the infidelitie of those of the Courte, gaue his minde to hearken to composition. And so was the third ciuill warre ended, and the peace concluded wyth the same con-

ditions that were before, that euerye man ſhoulde haue free libertie to vſe and profeſſe the Religion.

VVithin few moneths after this, diuers Princes of Germanie, that fauored the Religiō reſourmed, and among thoſe the three Electors, the Palſgraue, the Duke of Saxonie, and the Marques of Brandeburge, ſent their Embaſſadours into France to the King, to gratulate vnto him for the newe reconciliation of his ſubiects. And bycauſe they accompted it greatly to behoue them ſelues that the ſame concorde ſhould remaine ſtedfaſt and of long continuance, they promiſed, that if any would for that cauſe procure trouble, or make warre vppon him either within his owne dominiōs, or without, they and their followers ſhuld be ready to defend him. To this embaſſage the king firſte by words, and afterward by a booke ſubſcribed with his owne hande, anſwered and gaue his faith, that he would for euer moſt ſacredly and faithfully obſerue his Edict of pacification.

Hereby ſo much the more willingly the Admirall ſuffered him ſelfe to be drawne to the ſayd purpoſes for the low countrey, although oftentimes calling to minde the nature of the Queene mother, he vſed to ſay to diuers, and ſpe-

ſpecially to Theligny, to whome he afterwarde maried his daughter, that he greatly ſuſpected the rolling wit of that woman. For (ſaid he) ſo ſoone as ſhe hath brought vs into that preparation againſt the lowe countrey, ſhe will leaue vs in the midſt.

Neuertheleſſe, the Counte of Naſſaw writeth to his brother, and they conferring their aduiſes together, ſend meſſengers to the King, that if it pleaſe him to deale with the matter of the lowe countrey, they will ſhortly ſo do, that he ſhall by their many and greate ſeruices, well perceyue their affection and deuotion towarde him. The King writeth againe to them in moſt louing termes, ſaying that their meſſage moſt highly pleaſed him, and he gaue to them both his harty thanks.

About the ſame time Maximiliane the Emperoure pitying the eſtate of the Prince of Aurenge (as he ſaid) treated by his Embaſſadours with the King of Spayne, and had in manner obteyned, that the Prince ſhould haue all hys goodes reſtored vnto him, but with this condition, that he ſhould haue no houſe within the territorie of the lowe countrie, but ſettling his reſidence and dwelling elſewhere, he ſhoulde freely enioy all his reuenewes. VVhich matter

being reported to the French King, he immediatly ſent meſſengers to the Prince of Aurẽge willing him to loke for nothing by that dealing of the Emperour, ſaying that it was but a fraud and guilefull deuiſe intended for this purpoſe, only to breake vp his leuying of ſouldiors that he had begon in Germanie: and aſſuring him, that if he w oulde credite and followe him, hee would giue him ayde ſufficient to recouer hys eſtate.

The Prince of Aurenge perſwaded by theſe promiſes of King Charles, continued his muſters, and determined a while to bear the charges thogh they were heauie to him, while ſuch things as were neceſſarie for the warre, were in preparing. In the meane time Lodouic in diſguiſed apparell went to Paris to the King. Foraſmuch as the ſeaſon of the yeare by this time ſeemed not commodious to leuie an armie, for the winter was at hande, by aſſent they deferred the matter till the next ſommer.

Theſe things thus hanging, the Prince of Aurenge his capitaynes by ſea, did oftentymes ſet vpon the Spaniards and Portingals, & ſuch ſhips as they toke they brought into the hauen of Rochell, which then was in the power of the Prince of Condees part: and there they

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openly vttered and ſolde their prizes to the men of the towne and other merchantes of Fraunce, wherevppon the Embaſſadoure of Spayne made often complaintes to the Kings priuie councell.

And foraſmuche as they thought it very auaylable to this enterpriſe, that Elizabeth Queene of Englande might be broughte into league with them, the King cõmitted the dealing in that matter to the Admirall. For, a fewe moneths before, the King had with moſt ſwete alluring letters, gotten him to the Court, where he was moſt honorably entertayned: and to take from him all occaſion of diſtruſt vppon his aduerſaries, or of otherwiſe ſuſpecting of the Kings or Queene mothers affection towards him, firſt, all the Guiſians of a ſet purpoſe departed the Court. Then the King gaue the Admirall free libertie to take with him what companie and with what furniture he would: and bycauſe it was thoughte that he had more confidence in the Marſhall Coſſe, than in the reſt, therefore the King commaunded the ſaide Marſhall to be euer at hand with the Admirall, and to aſsiſt him in the Kings name if any nede were.

The matter of the league with Englande,

the Admirall ſo diligently and induſtriouſly handled, that within ſhort ſpace after by Embaſſadours ſent, and by faith giuen and receyued, and othes ſolemnely taken on both parts, it was confirmed. Concerning the procurement of other leagues and amities, ſuche as mighte ſeeme to further the enterpriſe of the low cuntrie, the Admirall alſo trauelled in the kings name, and by his commandemente, and had in a manner brought all theſe things to an ende. And of all thoſe leagues, the firſt and principall condition was, that the libertie of Religiō ſhuld continue, and that the king ſhoulde moſt diligently and ſincerely obſerue this Edict of pacification.

Though theſe things ſeemed to be handled ſecretly, yet by the letters both of Biragio the vicechancellor, of whom we made mentiō before, and of Moruilliers whom for his hipocriticall leaneneſſe children commonly called the Chimera or bugge of the Court, and by aduertiſements of Cardinal de Pelue, a man moſt fit either to inuent or execute any treaſon, they were caried to the Byſhop of Rome, who by aduiſe of his Cardinals ſent by and by one of their number, called Alexandrine, in the midſt of moſt ſharpe winter into Fraunce, with theſe

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inſtructions, to perſwade the king to enter into the ſocietie of the league of Trent, whereof the firſt and principall article was, that the confederats ſhould ioyne their powers and make warre vpon the Turks and Heretikes, meaning by the name of Heretikes, all thoſe Princes that did permitte the vſe of the reformed Religion within their dominions.

The Cardinall Alexandrine was honourably receyued in the courte, but yet diſmiſſed without atchieuing his purpoſe. For ſo was it bruted among the people, and commonly beleeued throughout Fraunce: albeit he himſelfe ſecretly ſeemed to returne very mery & cherefull to the Pope: and as it is reported, did ſometime ſay that he receyued ſuch aunſwere of the King as was needfull not to be publiſhed, and that the King and Queene mother had largely ſatiſfied him.

Foraſmuch as it was thought a matter greatly auayling to the enterpriſe of the lowe countrey, to ſende certayne ſhips into the Englyſhe Seas, that if any ayde ſhoulde be ſent into the lowe countrey to the Duke of Alua oute of Spayne, it might ſo be ſtopped, Strozzi and the Baron de la Guarde were appoynted for that purpoſe, to whome the king gaue in commandement

dement to rigge forthe certayne ſhips of Burdeaux and Rochell, well armed and well appoynted, and to prouide with all ſpede al things needfull for thoſe ſhips. The Ambaſſador of Spayne ſomewhat moued with this preparation, made diuers complaints to the kings counſell on the behalfe of the king his maſter, and yet neuer receyued any other anſwere, but that the king, thought it not likely, and that he wold ſend Commiſsioners to Burdeaux and to Rochell, with letters and commaundemente that there ſhuld be no preparation made to the ſea, and if any had bene made, it ſhould be enquired of. VVhat inſtructions were ſecretlye and cloſely vnder hand giuē to theſe two captaines of that nauie, we do not certaynly know. But this no man can doubte of, but that they had commiſsion to diſtreſſe all ſuch ſhips wherein any Spaniſhe ſouldiers ſhould be tranſported into the lowe countrey, and that all this preparation to the ſea, was ordayned againſt the Spaniſh king and the Duke of Alua.

And moreouer that the Admiral at the ſame time receiued commaundement frō the king, to ſend eſpials into Peru, an Iſlaind of the new found world, moſt plentifull of gold aboue all the other, now being in the Spaniards domini-

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on, to learne if there were any good enterprise to be attempted or atchieued for the getting of it. VVhich matter was committed to a certayne gentleman, one of the Admirals trayne, who went thither accompanyed with a certayne Portingall, a man most skilfull of those Nauigations, whome the Admirall had ioyned with him by the kings commaundement, and is not yet returned.

Nowe it can not be expressed how manye and how great tokens of most louing mynde the king at that time shewed to the Admirall, and to the Countie Rochfoucault, and to Theligny, and to the rest of the chiefe noblemen of the Religion. First, all such things as in the former warres had bene taken away in the townes, fermes and castels of the Admirall & d'Andelot, the king caused to be sought oute and restored. If there were any other whome the king vnderstoode to be beloued and esteemed of the Admirall, or to haue attayned anye speciall honour in the sayde late warres, those he liberally benefited and rewarded. To the Admirall himself he commaunded one day to be giuē a hundred thousand pounds of his owne treasure in recompence of his former losses. VVhen his brother the Cardinall Chastillion,

endowed with many great and welthie benefices, was departed his life, the king gaue him the fruites of one whole yeare. Also the kyng wrote to Philibert Duke of Sauoy, that he should do him a most acceptable pleasure, if he did not onely deale more gently with those that in the former warres had ayded those of the Religion, but also would vse clemencie and mildenesse toward all other that professed the same Religion within his dominions.

And for that there was old enmitie betwene the Guisians and the Admirall, wherby it was to be doubted that perillous contentions wold arise in the Realme of Fraunce, the king willed it to be signified to them both in his name, that they should for his sake and the common weales, giue ouer those displeasures, and he prescribed them a certaine fourme of reconciliation and agrement, the same whereof the foundations had bene layed almost sixe yeares before in the towne of Molins, where the king calling to him the greatest estates of his realme after consultation and deliberation had vpon the matter, pronoūced the Admiral not guiltie of the death of the Duke of Guise, wherwith he was charged by the yong Duke of Guise and his kinsmen: and so the king by the ad-

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nise of his Counsell had ended that contrauersie.

Furthermore, the Cardinall of Loraine (who as we haue sayd was the very forger of all the former warres) to take away al iealousie of new practises, was departed to Rome, & toke with him his familiar friend the late created Cardinall Peluey, one reputed a most subtil & craftie persõ, vnder pretẽce of goyng to the election of a newe Pope in place of the olde Pope then lately deceassed.

But there was none greater and more assured tokẽ of publique peace & quietnesse than this, that the king purposed to giue hys sister Margaret in mariage to the Prince Henry the sõne of the Queene of Nauarre, which Prince had in the last warre defended the cause of the Religion, and bene soueraigne of their armie. VVhiche mariage the kyng declared, that it should be the most streight bond of ciuill concorde, and the most assured testimonie of his good will to those of the Religion.

Yea, and also bicause it was alleaged that the sayd Prince Henrie was restrayned in conscience, so as he might not marrie the Lady Margaret being of a contrary Religion, a Catholike and giuen to the rites of the Romish Church,

the king for aunſwere ſayd that he would diſcharge hir of the Popes lawes, and notwithſtanding the crying out of all his courtiers to the contrary, he permitted him, that withoute all ceremonies, in the porch of the great church of Paris the mariage ſhoulde be celebrate in ſuch a fourme as the miniſters of the refourmed Church miſliked not.

VVhiche thing being by reporte and letters ſpread through the world, it cannot be expreſſed howe muche it made the hearts of thoſe of the Religion aſſured and out of care, and howe it caſt out al feare & ieloſies out of their minds, what a confidence it brought them of the kings good will toward them; Finally, how muche it reioyced forreine Princes and ſtates that fauored the ſame Religion. But the Admirals minde was much more ſtabliſhed by a letter which about the ſame time Theligny brought him with the kings owne hand and ſealed, wherein was conteined, that whatſoeuer the Admirall ſhuld do for the matter of the intended warre of the lowe countrey, the king would allow and ratifie the ſame, as done by his owne commaundement. About that time Lodouic of Naſſaw with the Queene of Nauarre a Lady moſt zelouſly affected to the Religion, came to the Frenche

Courte.

Courte. The league was made betweene king Charles and the Prince of Aurenge, and the articles thereof put in writing. The mariage was appointed to be holden in the towne of Paris. For whiche cauſe the Queene of Nauarre during thoſe fewe dayes repaired thether to prouide things for the ſolemnitie of the wedding. For the ſame cauſe the king ſente to the Admirall one Cauaignes, a man of an excellent ſharpe witte, whome for the Admirals ſake the king had aduaunced to great honoure, requiring the Admirall to go before to Paris, as well for the ſaid preparation, as alſo for the matter of the warre of the lowe countrie, promiſing that he himſelfe would within fewe dayes followe after him: aſſuring him that there was now no cauſe for him to feare the threatnings and mad outrages of the Pariſians. For in aſmuch as the ſame towne is aboue all other giuen to ſuperſtitions and is with ſeditious preachings of Monks and Friers dayly enflamed to crueltie, it is hard to expreſſe how bitterly they hated the Admirall and the profeſſors of that Religion. VVherto was added a griefe of their mind conceiued certaine dayes before, by reaſon of a certaine ſtone croſſe gilted and builte after the manner of a ſpire ſteeple, commonly

called Gaſtignes croſſe, whiche the Admirall with great earneſt ſute obtayned of the king to be ouerthrowne: for he alleaged, that being erected in the midſt of the rage of the ciuill warre, as it were in triumph to the reproch of one of the Religion, it was a monumente of ciuill diſſention, and ſo a matter offenſiue to peace and concord.

The King well knowing this deadly hate of the Pariſians to the Admirall, wrote his letters to Marcell the prouoſt of the marchauntes (whiche is the higheſt dignitie in Paris) with ſharpe threatnings if there ſhould be raiſed any ſtirre or trouble by reaſon of the Admirals comming. To the ſame effect alſo the Duke of Aniow the kings brother, and the Queene mother wrote to the ſame Marcell and the reſt of the magiſtrates of Paris, ſo that nowe there ſeemed vtterly no occaſion lefte for the Admiral to feare or diſtruſt. And within few dayes after, the king ſente Briquemault a man of greate vertue and eſtimation, to the Admirall, with the ſame inſtructiõs, ſaying that the matter of the lowe countrey could not well be delt in without his preſence.

The Admirall perſwaded by thus many meanes, and filled with good hope and cou-

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rage, determined to go to Paris, where so sone as he was ariued and had bene honorably and louingly entertayned of the king and his brethren and the Queene mother, and consultation entred among them about the preparation for the low coūtrey, he declared to the king at large, how the Duke of Alua was in leuying of greate power, and preparing an armie, and that if the king should dissemble his purpose, it would come to passe that many thereby wold shew themselues slower and slacker to the enterprise, and that nowe were offered greate meanes to do good, whiche if he let slippe, hee shoulde not so easily recouer the like againe hereafter. And therefore it was best to take the aduantage of this opportunitie.

A fewe dayes before, Lodouie of Nassaw wente secretly into the frontiers of the lowe countrey, and toke with him as partners of his iourney and priuie to his counsell three Frechmen of great credite with the Admirall, namely Saucourt, la Noue, and Genlis, to whom the king had giuen in charge to see if they coulde by any meanes attēpt and possesse any townes bordering vppon his realme. They gathering diuers other gentlemen into their companie, went speedily into the lowe countrey, the Admirall

mirall not knowing of it. VVho as soone as he vnderstode of their going thether, wrote vnto them that he much maruelled what they mēt, saying that he well knewe there coulde be no power gotten readie before. xl. dayes end and that they should be wel aduised to do nothing rashly, nor to ouerthrowe with hast their deuises that seemed not ripe to be executed.

The countie of Nassaw inflamed with the sighte and desire of his countrey, and fearing the mutableness of the king, did firste at the soden set vppon Valentiennes, but being repulsed by the Spanish souldiers that were in garrison in the Castell, he hastily departed to Montz, and toke the towne, being a place very strong by nature and well furnished with all things necessarye for the warre. VVhiche thing beyng by reporte and messangers spred abrode in the lowe countrey, and caried into Fraunce and Germanie, both encouraged all them of the Religion with great hope, and also seemed to haue now playnely and openlye deciphred & disclosed the mind of the French king. Moreouer Genlis returning to Paris, when he had made reporte to the king of all the matter as it had proceded, easily obtayned of him, that by his assent he might leuie certaine

taine bandes of footemen and horſſemen of Fraunce, and carie them to ſuccoure Montz. But by the way when he was entred into the bounds of the lowe countrie, hauing with him to the number of foure thouſand footemen, and aboute foure hundreth horſſemen, they were beſet by the Duke of Alua, and the moſt parte of them diſtreſſed: which thing was well knowne to haue ben wrought by the meanes of the Guiſians, which by dayly meſſages and letters, aduertiſed the Duke of Alua of theyr purpoſes and preparation. VVhich falſehod of theirs, many moſt affectionate to the Romiſh Religion, were highly offended with, bycauſe a great number addicted to the ſame Romiſhe Religion were in that companie.

VVith this loſſe, and with the reſcue of the towne of Valentiennes, the King ſeemed to be much troubled, for he feared leaſt his counſels being diſcloſed to the Spaniſh king, would at length breede ſome cauſe of querel and warre. Howbeit, when he began to remember, that a great parte of his ſecrets was already reuealed to the Duke of Alua, he oftentimes reſolued to vtter his minde plainely, and to make open warre. But he was withdrawne from that purpoſe by certaine men whiche the Admirall had

long before conceyued, that they would ſo do. Howbeit, he gaue the Admirall libertie to ſend whatſoeuer he thoughte meete to further the Prince of Aurenge his enterpriſe, and as great ſupplie either of footemen or of horſſemen as he could to the armie which the Prince of Aurenge had leuyed in Germanie. VVhen the Admirall for that cauſe had made requeſt that he might leauie thirtie troupes of horſſemen, and as many enſignes of footemen, he eaſily obtayned it.

For the entertainement of theſe footemen it behooued to haue money, wherefore at the requeſt of the Admirall, the king called for his Treſurer and commaunded him to deliuer to the Admirall ſo much money as the Admirall ſhould thinke meete, and charged him, that he ſhould not in any wiſe after the vſuall manner of the accompts of finances, write the cauſes of the receipt, but only ſet it downe in this forme: This ſumme of money was payde to the Admirall ſuche a day by the kings commaundement, for certayne cauſes which the king hath commaunded not to be written: and to thys warrante the King ſubſcribed with hys owne hand.

Alſo the King wrote to Monducet, his Embaſſadoure

baſſadoure in the lowe countrey, to trauell as earneſtly as he could, for their deliuerance, that were taken at the ouerthrowe of Genlis, which commaundement it is ſaid that Monducet did moſt faithfully and diligently execute.

Not long before this, Ioane Queene of Nauarre aboue mentioned, died in the Courte at Paris, of a ſodaine ſickneſſe, beeing aboute the age of fortie and three yeares, where, as the ſuſpition was great that ſhe died of poyſon, and hir body was fort hat cauſe opened by the Phiſitions, there were no tokens of poyſon eſpied. But ſhortly after, by the detection of one. A.P. it hath bene found that ſhe was poyſoned with a venomed ſmell of a pair of perfumed gloues, dreſſed by one Renat the Kings Apothicarie an Italian, that hath a ſhop at Paris vppon ſainte Michaels bridge, neare vnto the pallace: which could not be eſpied by the phiſitions which did not open the head nor loked into the brayne. It is well knowne that the ſame man about certayne yeares paſt, for the ſame intente gaue to Lewes Prince of Conde a poyſoned pomander, which the Prince left with one le Groſſe his Surgion: le Groſſe delited with the ſame, was by little and little poyſoned therewith, and ſo ſwelled, that he hardly eſcaped with his life.

By hir deathe, the Kingdome came to the Prince Henrie hir ſonne, to whom as is aboue-ſaid, the Kings ſiſter was promiſed and contracted.

Things being as it ſeemed throughout all Fraunce in moſt peacible eſtate, and the concord of all degrees well ſtabliſhed, the day was appointed for the marriage of the king of Nauarre, which day all they that fancied the Religion eſteemed ſo muche the more ioyfull to them, bycauſe they ſawe the King wonderfully bent therevnto, and all good men iudged the ſame a moſt aſſured pledge and ſtabliſhmente of ciuill concord; whereas on the contrary part, the Guiſians and other enimies of common quietneſſe greatly abhorred the ſame marriage.

VVhen the day came, the marriage was with royall pompe ſolemnized before the greate Churche of Paris, and a certaine fourme of words ſo framed, as diſagreed with the Religion of neither ſide, was by the kings commandement pronounced by the Cardinall of Burbon the king of Nauars vnkle: and ſo the matrimonie celebrate with greate ioy of the king and all good men, the bride was with greate trayne and pompe led into the Church to heare Maſſe, and in the meane time the bridegrome

who

who misliked these ceremonies, together with Henry Prince of Conde, sonne of Lewes, and the Admirall, and other noble men of the same Religion, walked withoute the Church dore, wayting for the Brides retourne.

VVhile these things were in doing at Paris, Strozzi, who as we haue said, had the charge of the kings power at sea, houering vpon the coast of Rochell, did now and then send of his captaines and souldiers into the towne, vnder colour of buying things necessarie: and sometime he came thither also him selfe. The like was done at the same time in another part of Fráce, by the horssemen of Gonzague Duke of Niuers, nere to the towne of la Charité, whiche hath a bridge ouer the riuer of Loyre, and remained till that time in the power of those of the Religion, by reason of the great number of thé there inhabiting. This troupe was of those horssemen whiche the King hath accustomed to keepe in ordinarie wages in euery countrey, whereof the most parte were Italians, countrey men to their Captaine Lewes Gonzague, to whome the Queene mother had giuen the daughter and heire of the Duke of Niuers in mariage. They requested of the townesmen, that they might make their musters within the

towne, saying that they had receyued warrante from the King so to do, and shewed the Kings letters therefore. At Lions the gouernoure of the towne, commaunded a view to be taken of all those that professed the Religion, and their names to be written in a boke and broughte vnto him: which booke shortly after, according to the successe, was called the bloudy booke.

After the mariage ended at Paris, which was the time that the Admirall had appointed to returne to his owne house, he moued the king concerning his departure. But so great was the preparation of playes, so great was the magnificence of banquets and shewes, and the King so earnestly bent to those matters, that he had no leysure, not onely for waightie affaires, but also not so much as to take his naturall sleepe. For in the French court, Dauncings, Maskings stageplayes (wherein the King exceedingly delighteth) are commonly vsed in the night time: and so the time that is fittest for counsell and matters of gouernance, is by reason of nightly riottous sitting vp, of necessitie consumed in sleepe. So great also is the familiaritie of men and the womē of the Queene mothers traine, and so great libertie of sporting, entertainment and talking togither, as to forein nations maye

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ſeeme incredible, and be thought of all honeſt perſons a matter not very conuenient for preſeruatiō of noble yong Ladies chaſtitie. Moreouer, if there come any pandor or bawde oute of Italie, or any Scholemaſter of ſhameful and filthie luſt, he winneth in ſhort time maruellous fauour and credit. And ſuch a multitude is there begonne to be of Italians, commonly throughout all Fraunce, ſpecially in the court, ſince the adminiſtration of the realme was cōmitted to the Queene mother, that many doe commonly call it Fraunce-Italian, and ſome terme it a Colonie, and ſome a common ſincke of Italie.

Theſe madneſſes of the Courte, were the cauſe that the Admirall could not haue acceſſe to the Kings ſpeache, nor entrance to deale in waightie matters. But whē they that were ſent from the refourmed Churches to complayne of iniuries commonlye done to thoſe of the Religion, vnderſtode of the Admirals purpoſe to departe, they did with all ſpeede deliuer to him their bookes and petitions, and beſoughte him, not to departe from the Court till he had dealte in the cauſe of the Churches, and deliuered their petitions to the King and his counſell. For this cauſe the Admirall reſolued to

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deferre his goyng for a while, till he mighte treat with the kings Counſell concerning thoſe requeſts: for the King had promiſed him that he would ſhortly entend thoſe matters, and be preſent with the Counſell himſelfe.

Beſides this delay, there was another matter that ſtayed him. There was owing to the Rutters of Germanie, whiche had ſerued on the part of the Religion in the laſt warre, great ſummes of money for their wages, in whiche matter the Admirall trauelled with incredible earneſtneſſe and care.

Concerning all theſe affaires, the Admirall (as he determined before) hauing acceſſe and opportunitie for that purpoſe, moued the Kings priuie Counſell the .22. daye of Auguſt, which was the fift daye after the king of Nauarres mariage, and ſpent muche time in that treatie. Aboute noone, when he was in returning home from the coũſell, with a great companie of noblemen and gentlemen, beholde, a Harquebuzier oute of a windowe of a houſe neere adioyning, ſhotte the Admirall with two bullets of leade through both the armes. VVhẽ the Admirall felt himſelfe wounded, nothing at all amazed, but with the ſame countenance that he was accuſtomed, he ſaid, through yonder

der windowe it was done: go see who are in the house. What manner of trecherie is this? Thē he sent a certayne gentleman of his company to the king to declare it vnto him. The king at that time was playing at Tennise with the Duke of Guise. Assoone as he heard of the Admirals hurte, he was maruellously moued as it seemed, and threw away his racket that hee played with on the grounde, and taking with him his brother in lawe the king of Nauarre, he retired into his castle.

The gentlemen that were with the Admiral brake into the house from whence he receyued his hurte, there they found only one woman, the keper of the house, and shortly after also a boy, his lackey that had done the deede, and therewithall they founde the harquebuze lying vppon the table in that chamber from whēce the noyse was heard: him that shot they found not, for he in great hast was runne away out at the backe gate, and getting on horsse-backe, which he had wayting for him redy sadled at the dore, he rode a great pace to Sainte Anthonies gate, where he had a freshe horsse tarying for him if neede were, and another at Marcelles gate. Then by the kings commandement a great number rode out in post into all

paſtes to purſue him: but for that he was ſlipped into by waies, and receiued into a certaine caſtle, they could not ouertake him.

At the ſute of the king of Nauarre, and the Prince of Conde and other, the King by and by gaue commiſsion for enquirie to be made of the matter, and committed the examining thereof to three choſen perſons of the parliament of Paris, Thuan and Morſant and Viol a counſeller.

Firſte it was found that the ſame houſe belonged to a Prieſt a Canon of ſaint Germaine, whoſe name is Villemure, which had bene the Duke of Guiſes ſcholemaſter in his youthe, and ſtill continued a retayner towarde hym. Then the woman whiche we ſaid was founde in the houſe, being taken and broughte before them, confeſſed that a fewe dayes before, there came to hir one Chally ſometime a maiſter d'hoſtel of the Duke of Guiſes houſe, and now of the Kings courte, and commaunded hir to make muche of the man that had done thys deede, and to lodge him in the ſame bed and chamber where Villemure was wont to lie, for that he was his friende and very familiar acquaintance, and that Villemure would be very glad of it. The name of him that ſhot was

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very diligently kepte ſecret. Some ſay it was Manreuet, whiche in the thirde ciuill warre traiterouſly ſlew his captaine monſieur de Mouy, a moſt valiante and noble gentleman, and ſtraightway fled into the enimies campe. Some ſaye it was Bondot, one of the archeirs of the Kings guarde. VVhen the womans confeſsion was broughte to the king, he immediatly called Monſieur de Nance, captaine of his guard, and commaunded him to apprehend Challey and bring him to him. Challey aſſoone as hee heard the ſtroke of the peece, fledde into the Kings caſtle called the Louure, and hid him in the Duke of Guiſes' chamber, from whence he conuayed him ſelfe away aſſoone as he had heard of the kings commaundement. VVhen de Nance was informed of his departure, he anſwered that Challey was a gentleman of good worſhip, and there was no doubte but when neede were he woulde appeare before the King and the magiſtrates.

VVhile theſe things were doyng, and the Admirals wound in dreſsing, Theligny went by his commaundement to the King, and moſt humbly beſought him in the name of his father in lawe, that his maieſtie woulde vouſafe to come vnto him, for that his life ſeemed to be

in perill, and that he had certaine things to say, greatly importing to the King; safetie, whiche he well knewe that none in his Realme durst declare to his maiestie. The King curteously aunswered that he would willingly go to him, and within a little while after he set forwarde. The Queene mother went with him, and the Duke of Aniow, the Duke of Monpensier, a most affectionate subiect to the Churche of Rome, the Counte de Rhetz, the Queene mothers great familiar, Chauigny and Entragny, which afterwarde were chiefe ringleaders in the butcherie of Paris.

VVhen the King had louingly saluted the Admirall as he was wont to do, and had gently asked him some questions cõcerning his hurt and the state of his health, and the Admirall had aunswered with suche a milde and quiet countenaunce, that all they that were present wondered at his temperance and pacience, the king beyng much moued (as it seemed) sayd, The hurt my Admirall is done to thee, but the dishonour to me: but by the death of God (saith he) I sweare I will so seuerely reuenge both the hurte and the dishonor, that it shall neuer be forgotten. He asked him also how he liked of the Iudges that he had chosen, to whõ

he had giuen commiſsion for examining the matter. The Admiral aunſwered that he could not but very well like of thoſe that his maieſtie had allowed of, yet he beſought him if he thought it good, that Cauagnes might be called to counſell with them, albeit that it was no hard matter to finde out, for it was no doubt (ſayd he) that this good turne was done him by the Duke of Guiſe, the reuenge wherof he referred to God. This onely he moſt heartily and humbly beſoughte of his royall maieſtie, that the faet might be duelie enquired vpon. The king aunſwered that he would take earneſt care of it, and reuenge that iniurie with no leſſe ſeueritie than if it had bene done to himſelfe. Then the kings brethren and their mother withdrawing themſelues a while, the Admirall as it was afterward knowne by his owne report, began to aduiſe the king to haue in memorie thoſe things that he had ofte tolde him of the daungerous intentions of certaine perſons: and he tolde him, that though he himſelf had receiued a great wound, yet there was no leſſe hanging ouer the kings head: and that long ago there was treaſō in practizing againſt his life, which if he would do wiſely he ſhould auoyde betimes. Further he ſayd, that though

ſo ſoone as God ſhould take him to himſelfe out of this life, he doubted not but that his fame ſhould be brought into ſundry ſlaunders by enuious perſons, and ſuch as ought him euill will by reaſon of the late warres, neuertheleſſe he had oftentimes diſcloſed vnto the king the authors of the diſſentions, and opened the cauſes therof, and that God was his witneſſe of his moſt faithfull hearte to the king and the common weale, and that he had neuer holden any thing dearer than his countrey and the publique ſafetie.

The king after ſuch aunſwere made herevnto as he thought beſt, ſpake aloude, & heartily entreated the Admirall to ſuffer himſelf to be remoued into his caſtell of the Louure, for that he thought ſome perill, leaſt there ſhould ariſe ſome ſedition among the commons alreadie in diſorder, or any ſtirre in that madde and troubleſome Citie. VVherto this ſpeech of the king tended coulde not then be vnderſtoode. For though the cõmonaltie of Paris hath euer bene accompted the moſt fooliſh & madde of all other, yet is it euer moſt eaſily appeaſed, not onely with the comming and preſence of the king, but alſo with the very ſound of his name. The Admirall moſt humbly and large-

largely thanked the king, and made his excuſe vpon the counſell of the Phiſitions, which feared that ſhaking would encreaſe his paine, and therfore had taken order that he ſhould not be ſtirred out of his place. Then the Counte de Rhetz turning to certaine gentlemen of the Admirals friends, ſayd, I would the Admirall would follow the kings counſell, for it is to be feared that ſome ſuch ſtirre may ariſe in the towne, as the king ſhall not eaſily be able to appeaſe. VVhich ſpeech being vttered, although no man did yet ſuſpect whereto that aduiſe tended, yet the Admirall & his friends thought it good to requeſt of the king to aſsigne vnto him certaine of the ſouldiers of the guarde for his ſafetie. The king aunſwered that he verie well liked of that deuiſe, and that he was fully determined to prouide aſwell for the Admirals ſafetie as for his owne, and that he would preſerue the Admirall as the ball of his eye, & that he had in admiration the conſtancie and fortitude of the man, and that he neuer before that time beleued that there could be ſo great valiauntneſſe of courage in anye mortall perſon.

Therewith the Duke of Aniow the Kings brother commaunded Coſsin captaine of the

kings

Kings guarde, to place a certaine band of ſouldiers to ward before the Admirals gate. There could hardly a man be found more hatefull againſt the Admirals parte, nor more affected to the Guiſians thā this Coſsin, which the ſucceſſe plainly proued, as hereafter ſhall appeare. The Duke of Aniow further added, that he thought it ſhould be good for the Admirall, if moe of his frieds and familiars that lodged in the fauxburges did drawe nearer about him: and forthwith he commaunded the kings herbingers to warne thoſe to whome they had before aſsigned lodgings in that ſtreete, to remoue from thence, and to place the Admirals friendes in their roomes. VVhiche counſell was ſuche, as none coulde poſsibly be deuiſed more fit for thoſe things that followed. For thoſe whiche might haue by flight eſcaped out of the ſuburbs were nowe holden faſt inough, being encloſed not only within the walles of the towne, but alſo within the compaſſe of one narrow ſtrete. The nexte day after, the Vndermaſters of the ſtreetes commonly called Quartermen, ſurueyed al the vittailing houſes and Innes from houſe to houſe, and all the names of thoſe of the Religion, together with the place of euery of their lodgings they put in bookes, and with

ſpeede

ſpeede deliuered ouer the ſame bookes to thoſe of whome they had receyued that commaundement.

After noone the Queene mother lead out the King, the Duke of Aniow, Gonzague, Tauaignes, the Countie de Rhetz called Gondin, into hir gardens called Tegliers. This place bicauſe it was ſomewhat farre from reſort, ſhe thoughte moſt fit for this their laſt conſultation. There ſhe ſhewed them, how thoſe whom they had long bene in waite for, were nowe ſure in hold, and the Admirall lay in his bed maymed of both his armes and coulde not ſtirre, the king of Nauarre and Prince of Conde were faſt lodged in the caſtle, the gates wer kept ſhut all nighte, and watches placed, ſo as they were ſo ſnared that they coulde no way eſcape, and the captaines thus taken, it was not to be feared that any of the Religion woulde from thencefoorth ſtirre any more. Now was a notable opportunitie (ſaid ſhe) offred to diſpatch the matter. For all the chiefe captaines were faſt cloſed vp in Paris, and the reſt in other townes were all vnarmed and vnprepared, and that there were ſcarcely to be founde ten enimies to a thouſand Catholikes: that the Pariſians were in armour and were able to

make threescore thousande chosen fighting men, and that within the space of one houre all the enimies may be slayne, and the whole name and race of those wicked mē be vtterly rooted out. On the other side (saith she) if the King do not take the aduantage of the fitnesse of this time, it is no doubte but that if the Admirall recouer his health, al Fraunce wil shortly be on fire with the fourth ciuill warre.

The Queenes opinion was allowed. Howbeit it was thought best, partly for his age, and partly for the affinities sake, that the king of Nauarres life shuld be saued. As for the Prince of Conde, it was doubted whether it were best to spare hym for his age, or to put him to death for hatred of his fathers name. But herein the opinion of Gonzague toke place, that he should with feare of death and torment, be drawen from the Religion. So that counsell brake vp, with appoyntment that the matter should be put in executiō the nexte night early afore day, and that the ordering and doing of all shoulde be committed to the Duke of Guise.

The Admirall being enformed of stirre and noyse of armour, and threatnings heard euery where throughout the towne, and preparation

of

of many things pertaining to tumult, ſent word therof to the King: who aunſwered, that there was no cauſe for the Admirall to feare, for all was done by his commaundement, and not euery where, but in certaine places, & that there were certaine appointed by him to be in armor, leaſt the people ſhould riſe and make any ſtirre in the towne.

VVhen the Duke of Guiſe thoughte all things readie enough, he called to him the abouesayde Marcell, and charged him that he ſhould a little after midnight aſſemble togither the maiſters of the ſtreetes whome they call Diziners into the towne houſe, for he had certaine ſtrange and ſpeciall matters in charge frō the king, which his pleaſure was to haue declared vnto them. They all aſſembled bytime. Carron the new prouoſt of merchaunts, guarded with certaine Guiſians, and among the reſt Entragne and Pnygallart, made the declaration: He ſayd that the kings meaning was to deſtroye all the Rebels which had in theſe late yeares borne armes againſt his maieſtie, and to roote out the race of thoſe wicked men, it was now very fitly happened that the chieftaynes and ſingleaders of them were faſte encloſed within the walles of the towne, as in a priſon,

and that the ſame night they ſhould firſt begin with them, and afterward for the reſt aſſone as poſsibly might be, throughout all partes of the Realme the King would take order: and the token to ſet vpon them, ſhould be giuen, not with a trumpet, but with tockſein or ringing of the great bell of the pallace, which they knewe to be accuſtomed onely in great caſes: and the marke for them to be knowne from other, ſhould be a white linnen cloth hanged aboute their left arme, and a white croſſe pinned vpon their cappes. In the meane time the Duke of Guiſe made priuie thervnto the Captaines of the Kings guarde, both Gaſcoignes, Frenchmē, and Switzers, and bad them be readie to goe to it with good courage. Shortly after, the Duke of Guiſe and the baſtard ſonne of king Henrie, commonlye called the Cheualier, with a great band of armed men following thē, went to the Admirals houſe, which Coſsin kept beſieged with harquebuziers placed in order on both ſides of the ſtreate.

The Admiral aduertiſed of the ſtirre and the noiſe of the armour, although he had ſcarcely ten perſons in his houſe able to beare harneſſe, and in his chamber onely two ſurgions, one preacher and one or two ſeruitors, yet coulde

not

not be made afraide, truſting (as he oft rehearſed) vpon the Kings good will toward him, approued by ſo many and ſo great meanes of aſſuraunce, hauing alſo confidence that the commonaltie of Paris if they once vnderſtode the King to miſlike of their madde furie, howe much ſo euer they were in outrage, yet ſo ſone as they ſaw Coſsin warding the gate, they wold be appeaſed. He repeated alſo the othe for keeping of the peace, ſo ofte openly ſworne by the King and his brethren and their mother, and entred in publike recordes, the league lately made with the Queene of Englande for the ſame cauſe, the articles of treatie couenanted with the Prince of Aurenge, the kings faith giuen to the Princes of Germanie, ſome townes attempted and ſome taken in the lowe countrey by the Kings commaundement, the mariage of the Kings ſiſter ſolemnized but ſixe daies before, which it was not like that he wold ſuffer to be defiled with bloud, finally the iugement of forain nations and of poſteritie, ſhame and the honor & conſtancie of a Prince, publique faith, and the ſacred reſpect of the law of nations, all which it ſeemed monſtruous and incredible that the king could aſſent to be ſtained with ſo outragious a cruell deede.

Cosin when he sawe the noblemen drawe neere, knocked at the gate, which as is aboue-said, he was commaunded by the Duke of Aniow to kepe. VVhervpon many applyed the olde prouerbe, A goodly guarde to make the woolfe keper of the sheepe. VVhen he was entred without in maner any difficultie, he caried in with him a great companie of armed men, and after those followed the great Lords. Such as Cosin found at the entrie of & within the porch of the house, he slew with a partisan that he had in his hand. VVhich when the Admirall vnderstoode, he caused those that were about him to lift him out of his bed, and casting on a nightgowne vpon him, he rose vpright on his feete, he bad his friends and seruantes to flee and make shift for them selues, and to take no more care for him, for he sayd that he was readie with most willing hearte to render into the hands of God, now calling for it againe, the spirit that he had lent him to vse for a time: and sayd that this violent crueltie was prepared not so much for his destruction, as for the dishonoring of Christ and the tormenting of so many Churches, the defence of which Churches he had at the petition of all godly men with his many daungers and calamities

mities ſuſtained.

In the meane time there came vp the ſtaires into the hier part of the houſe, one Benueſe a Germayne, broughte vp in the houſe of the Duke of Guiſe, and to whome it is ſaide, that the Cardinall of Loraine had giuen one of his baſtard daughters in mariage: and with hym came Coſsin the Gaſcoine, Attin a Picarde a retainer and familiar of the Duke d'Aumal, one that a few yeares before ſought to murder d'Andelot by treaſon, and alſo one Hâfort an Auernois, all weaponed with ſwords and targets, and armed with ſhirts of maile.

VVhen they were broken into the Admirals chamber, Benueſe came to him, and bending his drawen ſword vpon him, ſaid, Art not thou the Admirall? he with a quiet and conſtant countenance, (as we haue ſince vnderſtode by them ſelues) anſwered, I am ſo called. And then ſeeing the ſword drawen vpō him, he ſayde, yong man, conſider my age and the weake caſe that I am now in. But the fellowe, after blaſpheming God, firſt thruſt his ſworde into the Admirals breſt, and then alſo ſtroke him vpō the head, and Attin ſhot him through the breſt with a piſtol. VVhen the Admirall was with this wound not yet throughly dead,

Benueſe

Benueſe gaue him the third wound vpon the thigh, and ſo he fell downe for dead. VVhen the Duke of Guiſe, which ſtayed in the court with the other noble men, heard this, he cried out alowde, haſt thou done Benueſe? he aunſwered, I haue done. Then ſaid the Duke of Guiſe, our Cheuelier (meaning King Henries baſtard abouesaide) vnleſſe he ſee it with hys eyes, will not beleeue it: throwe him downe at the windowe. Then Benueſe with the helpe of his fellowes toke vp the Admirals body and threw it downe through the windowe. VVhé by reaſon of the wounde in his head, and hys face couered with bloud they could not well diſcerne him, the Duke of Guiſe kneeled downe on the grounde and wiped him with a napkin and ſaid, now I know him, it is he. And therewithal going out at the gate with the reſt of the Lords, he cryed out to the multitude in armoure, ſaying: my companions we haue had a good lucky beginning: nowe let vs go forward to the reſt, for it is the Kings commaundement: which words he did ofte repete alowde, ſaying, Thus the King commaundeth: This is the Kings will, this is his pleaſure. And then he commaunded the token to be giuen by ringing tockſein with the great bell of the pallace,

palace, and alarme to be rayſed, and he cauſed it to be publiſhed, that the conſpiratours were in armoure and about to kill the king. Then a certaine Italian of Gõzagues band, cut off the Admirals head, and ſent it preſerued with ſpices to Rome to the Pope and the Cardinall of Loraine. Other cut off his hands, and other his ſecret partes. Then the common labourers and raſcals three dayes togither dragged the dead body thus mangled and berayed with bloud and filth, through the ſtreetes, and afterwarde drew it out of the towne to the common gallowes, and hanged it vp with a rope by the feete.

In the meane time, thoſe of the noble mens bandes brake into all the chambers of the admirals houſe, and ſuche as they founde eyther in theyr beds, or hidden, they mangled them with many wounds, and ſo ſlaughtered them. Of that number were two young children, pages, of honourable birth. There was alſo the Counte Rochfoucault, which for the excellent pleſantneſſe of his wit, and for his valiantneſſe was hiely beloued of King Henry, and ſo ſeemed for the ſame cauſe alſo to be beloued of the king. Him was de Nãce abouesaid commaunded to kill, but he refuſing it for

their old acquaintance and familiaritie: one Laberge an Auernois offred him self to the king to do it, but with this condition, that the king should giue him the captaineship of horssemen which Counte Rochfoucault had. There was also slayne Theligny the Admirals sone in law, a yong man of singular towardnesse bothe of wit and courage, to whome the king these many yeares had both in words and countenance made shewe of so great good will, as that no man was thoughte to be more hiely in his fauoure. He crying out, that it was now grieuous to him to liue, for that he had euer commended to his father in lawe the faithfulnesse of the King, refused not the deathe offred hym. And many other most flourishing yong noble men and gentlemen were euery where butcherly murthered in that streete. Then the noble mens bands, and Cosins souldiers went ransacking from house to house: and the Admirals house and all the other houses were all sacked and spoyled, euen in like manner as is vsed to be done by souldiers greedy of pray in a towne take by assault: and many by this robberie, were of beggers sodeinly become riche men. For the Duke of Guise, the Duke of Monpensier, the Chcualier king Henries bastard,

ſtarde, Gonzague, Tauaignes, and the other great Lords, did with reward of the ſpoile and bootie encourage the multitude to the ſlaughter, and cried out aloud that this was the kings will. So all the reſt of the day from morning to euening, the raſcall multitude, encouraged by ſpoyle and robberie, ranne with their bloudy ſwords raging throughout all the towne: they ſpared not the aged, nor women, nor the very babes: In ioy and triumph they threw the ſlaine bodies out at the windowes, ſo as there was not in manner any one ſtreete or lane, that ſeemed not ſtrawed with murthered carcaſes.

VVhile theſe things were thus a doing in the towne, the King of Nauarre and the prince of Conde, whome the King had lodged in hys owne caſtle of the Louure, were by the kings commaundement ſent for and conueyed vnto him. But their company, their ſeruitours of their chamber, their friends reteining to them, their ſcholemaiſters, and thoſe that had the bringing vp of them, crying out alowde to the Kings fidelitie for ſuccoure, were thruſt out of the chambers, and by the kings guard of Switzers hewed in pieces and ſlaughtered in the kings owne ſight. But of that number of perſons ſlayne, no mans caſe was ſo much lamen-

ted of many, as Monſieur de Pilles, in whome it is hard to expreſſe whether there were more godly zeale in Religion, or proweſſe in warre. VVhereby hauing in the late yeares, ſpecially by the defence of the towne of Saint Iohn d'Angeli, which the King then beſieged, gotten great honoure of cheualrie, he was thoughte very well beloued and hiely eſteemed of the King. Him and Leranne the ſonne of Odou, by the French Kings commaundement (which was not then vnderſtoode whereto it tended) the King of Nauarre had ſtayed in a wardrobe adioyning to his owne chamber, and cauſed them to lodge there al night. A little afore day, hearing of the running of men, and noyſe of armor, and cries and killings, they roſe in haſt, and immediatly de Nance, whome we haue before ſpoken of, came to them, and cõmanded them in the kings name to come downe into the court, and to leaue their weapons behind them, and laſtly to depart out of the caſtle. VVhen de Pilles ſawe himſelfe thruſt out among the multitude of the murthering ſouldiers, and beheld the bodies of them that were ſlayne, he cried out with a very lowde voyce that the king might well heare him, proteſting vpon the kings fidelitie, and deteſting his traytterous

terous infidelitie, & therwith he toke off a rich cloake whiche he wore, and gaue it to one of his acquaintãce, ſaying, take here this token of Pilles, and hereafter remember Pilles moſte vnworthyly and ſhamefully ſlayne. Oh my good Monſieur de Pilles, ſaide the other, I am none of them: I thanke you for your cloake, but I will not receiue it with that condition, and ſo refuſed to take the cloake: and immediatly de Pilles was thruſt through by one of the guarde with a partiſan, and died. And this ende had this moſt valiante and noble gentleman. And then his body was throwen into the quarrey with the reſt, whiche when they that paſſed by did behold, the ſouldiers cryed out, there they be that made aſſault vpon vs, and would haue killed the King. Leranne beeing thruſt through with a ſword, eſcaped and ran into the Queene of Nauarres chamber, and was by hir kept and preſerued from the violence of thoſe that purſued him. Shortly after, ſhe obtayned his pardon of hir brother, and committing him to hir owne Phiſitions, reſtored him both to life and health.

VVhile things were in doing at Paris, Strozzi, which (as we haue aforeſayd) was come with all his power to Rochell, ſent a great number of

his ſouldiers into the towne, vnder colour of a banket to be made to his friends in the caſtell called la Cheine, but by reaſō of the iealoſie & watches of the townes men, by whom he ſawe his treaſon was eſpied, he went away without his purpoſe. But they of la Charité, which as we haue before ſhewed, were trapped by the Italian horſſemen, taking leſſe heede to the ſafe keeping of their towne, were a little before night ſurprized, and within fewe dayes after put to the ſweard.

The next day following, where any that had hidden themſelues in corners at Paris coulde be found out, the ſlaughter was renewed: alſo common labourers and porters, and other of the moſt raſcals of the people and deſperate villaines, to haue the ſpoile of their clothes, ſtripped the dead bodies ſtarke naked & threw them into the riuer of Seane. The profit of all the robberies and ſpoyles came all for the moſt part to the handes of theſe laborers and the ſouldiers, and to the Kings treaſure came very little or nothing. The onely gaine that came to him, was that which might be made of the vacations (as they terme them) of offices and of places of Magiſtrates, Captaines & other romes of charge, wherof yet he gaue a great part freely

ly away to diuers of the Court. For the Admirals office he gaue to the Marques de Villars, the Chancellorship of Nauarre, after the murther of Francourt, he by and by gaue to Henry Memne de Malassise, which had beene the truchman and messenger in the treatie of the last peace: the office of the maister of the Finances after the slaughter of Prunes he gaue to Villequier, the office of President des aides when Plateau was slaine he gaue to de Nully: the other offices he sold as his maner is, to such as gaue ready money for them. For it hath ben the custome now lately of certaine Kings of Fraunce (such as among forein nations hath not bene heard of) to put to sale all the profits, rights, and benefites of the crowne, and to kepe an open market for money, of all iudiciall offices, and of all the roomes belonging to his treasure and finances, according to a rate of price set vpon euerie one of them: and there is not in maner one in all Fraunce, that doth not opēly iustifie that he bought his office for readie money, and that no man ought to maruell if he desire to fill vp the empty hole of his stock againe. And therefore iustice is throughe all Fraunce vsually bought for money, & though there be neuer so many murders committed,

yet

yet is there no proceſſe awarded to enquire thereof, till preſent coyne be payde to the rakehelles and ſcribes.

This butcherly ſlaughter of Paris thus perfourmed, and foure hundred houſes (as is abouesayd) ſacked, immediatly meſſengers were ſent in poſt into all partes of the Realme, with ofte ſhifting their horſſes for haſt, to command all other Cities in the Kings name to follow the example of Paris, and to cauſe to be killed as many as they had among them of the refourmed Religion.

Theſe commaundements it is wonderfull to tell how readily and cherefully the greateſt part of the Cities of Fraunce did obey and execute. But the king, fearing (as it was likely) the diſhonour of falſe treacherie and periurie, ſent letters to the gouernours of his prouinces, and alſo ſpeedie meſſangers into England, Germanie, and Switzerland, to declare in his name, that there was a great commotion and ſeditious ſtirre happened at Paris, which he was very ſorie for: that the Duke of Guiſe had raiſed the people, and with armed men made aſſaulte vpon the band that was aſsigned to the Admirall for his guarde, and had broken into the houſe and ſlaine the Admirall and all his com-

panie

panie and houſhold ſeruants, and that the king had hardly kept ſafe from thoſe daungers hys owne caſtell of the Louure, where he kept him ſelfe cloſe with his mother and his brethren: the true copie of which letters is hereafter inſerted. But the ſame moſt mightie, and by the conſent of all nations commonlye called the moſt Chriſtian King, within two dayes after came into the Parliament, accompanied with a great traine of his brethren and other Princes. The counſell being aſſembled, he ſitting in his throne, began to ſpeake vnto them, he declared that he was certified, that the Admiral with certaine of his complices had conſpired hys death, and had intended the like purpoſe againſt his brethren, the Queene his mother, & the king of Nauarre, and that for this cauſe he had commaunded his friends to ſlay the ſayde Admiral and all his confederates, and ſo to preuent the treaſon of his enimies.

This his teſtification and declaratiō, the king commaunded to be written and entred in the recordes of Parliament, and that it ſhould be proclamed by the heraldes, and publiſhed by Printers. And he willed a boke to be ſet forth to this effect, that the ſlaughter of the Admirall & his adherentes was done by the Kings com-

maundement, for so was his maiesties expresse pleasure, bicause they had conspired to kill him and his brethren, and the Queene his mother and the King of Nauarre. And farther, that the King did forbid that from thenceforth there should be no moe assemblies holden, nor preachings vsed of the Religion.

After the kings oration ended, Christopher Thuane President of that Parliament, a man verie notable for his lighte brayne and his cruell heart, did with very large words congratulate vnto the king, that he had nowe with guile and subtiltie ouercome these his enimies, whom he could neuer vanquishe by armes and battell, saying that therein the King had most fully verified the olde saying of Lewes the eleuenth his progenitor King of France, which was wont to say that he knew neuer a Latine sentence but this one, *Qui nescit dissimulare, nescit regnare*, He that can not skill to dissemble, can not skill to be a king. But Pibrace, the aduocate of the Finances, made a short oration, the summe wherof was to this effect, that although the king had iust and great cause to be displeased, yet he thoughte it more agreable with his maiesties clemencie and goodnesse, to make an ende of the slaughters and common

spoyle,

ſpoyle, and not to ſuffer ſuche outrages to be any longer committed without iudiciall proceding in the cauſe: and beſoughte his maieſtie that from thenceforth it woulde pleaſe him to vſe the lawe, which is well knowne to be the onely ſtabliſhment of kingdomes and empires: and that there had bene alreadie giuen to the commonaltie too perilous an example to followe. An arreſt of Parliament with the Kings royall aſſent being made to that effecte, there were immediately Haroldes and trumpeters ſent round about all the towne, and an Edict proclaimed in the kings name, that frō thenceforth the ſlaughters & cōmon butcherly murtherings ſhuld ceaſſe, and that all perſons ſhuld abſtaine from pillage and robberie.

This being knowne, there were diuers ſpeeches vſed of this matter throughout the town, and ſpecially of learned men. The moſt parte ſayd, that they had read many hiſtories, but in all memorie of all ages they neuer heard of any ſuche thing as this. They compared this caſe with the horrible doings of king Mithridates, which with one meſſenger and with the aduertiſement of one letter, cauſed a hundreth and fiftie thouſand Romaines to be ſlaine. Some compared it with the doing of Peter of Arra-

gone, which ſlewe eight thouſand Frenchmen in Sicile, which Iſle they had ſurpriſed in his abſence. But yet this difference appeared betwene thoſe caſes and this: that thoſe Kings had exerciſed their crueltie vpon foreins and ſtrangers: but this king had done his outrage vpon his owne ſubiectes, being yelded not ſo much to his power, as to his fayth and credit. Thoſe kings were bounde by no promiſe but ſuch as was giuen to the ſtrangers themſelues: this king was with newe made league bounde to the Kings and Princes his neighbours to kepe the peace that he had ſworn. Thoſe kings vſed no guilefull meanes vnworthie for the maieſtie of a king, to deceiue: this king for a baite and allurement abuſed the mariage of his owne ſiſter, and in a manner beſprinkled hir wedding robe with blood. VVhich diſhonor & indignitie no poſteritie of all ages can forget. Some againe diſcourſed, that though this cruell aduiſe ſemed to many Courtiers to haue bene profitable, yet not onely the honor of a King, but alſo the eſtimation and good fame of the whole nation was againſt that ſhewe of profit. They alleaged how Ariſtides did openly in the audience of all the people, reiect the coũſell of Themiſtocles cõcerning the burning of the La-

cedæ-

cedemonias nauie, although it muſt nedes haue followed, that the power of the Lacedemonians their enimies ſhould therby haue bene vtterly weakened. Furius Camillus receiued not the childrē of the chiefe Lords of the Phaliſce, betrayed to him by their ſchoolemaſter, but ſtripped him naked and deliuered him to be whipped home with rods by the ſame childrē. Pauſanias hath lefte it reported that the poſteritie of Philip of Macedon fell into moſte greate calamities, for this cauſe, that he was wont to ſet light by the reuerend conſcience of an oth and his faith giuen in leagues. Some cited the lawe of the twelue tables: *Si patronus clienti fraudem facit, ſacer eſto.* If the patrone or ſoueraigne defraude his client or vaſſal, be he out of protectiō. They diſputed alſo, that like faith as the vaſſall oweth to his Lord, the Lord oweth alſo to his vaſſall: and for what cauſes and for what felonies the vaſſal loſeth his tenancie, for the ſame cauſes and felonies the Lord loſeth his ſegniorie. Some ſaide that the right hand in auncient time was called the pledge of the faith of a king, and that this if a king ſhall deſpiſe, there is no communion of right with him, and he is no more to be accoūted a king, neither of his owne ſubiects nor of

ſtraungers. Kingly vertues in times paſt haue bene reported to be theſe, iuſtice, gentleneſſe and clemencie: but crueltie and outrage haue euer bene diſpraiſed both in all perſons and ſpecially in princes. Scipio hath in all ages bene prayſed, who was wont to ſay, that he had rather ſaue one citizen than kill a thouſand enimies: whiche ſentence Antoninus the Emperour, ſurnamed Pius the kind or vertuous, did ofte repete. It was a moſt ſhamefull byworde of yong Tiberius to be called Clay tempered with bloud. They ſaid alſo, that kings haue power of life and death ouer their ſubiects, but not without hering the cauſe, and iudicial proceding: that there cannot be alleaged a greater authoritie, than the dictators had at Rome, in whome was the ſoueraigne power of peace and warre, of life and death, and without appeale, yet was it not lawfull for them to execute a citizen his cauſe vnheard. Only theeues and murderers take away mens liues without order of lawe and hearing their cauſe. VVho can doubt (ſaid they) but that this ſo great outra e, ſo great ſheading of Chriſtian bloud is the frute of the curſſed life of the courtiers? For (ſaide they) nowe throughout all Fraunce whoredome and looſe leudneſſe of life are ſo

free

free and vſuall, that nowe the moſt part of the women of Fraunce ſeeme to be in manner common: and the wicked blaſphemies and continuall execrations and diſhonorings of Gods moſt holy name and maieſtie, are ſuche as God cannot longer beare: and true it is, though incredible among foreine Nations, that the catholikes of Fraunce haue preſcribed them ſelues this for a ſpeciall marke to bee knowne from other men, that at euery thirde word they blaſphemouſly ſweare by the head, death, bloud, and bellie of God: and wonderfull it is, that the King him ſelfe is ſo much delighted in this cuſtome of ſwearing and blaſpheming: and this as it were a peſtilente infection is ſpred abrode and common among the very plowmen and payſants, ſo as none among them now ſpeaketh three words without moſt filthy blaſpheming and horrible execration of God. VVho can longer beare the vile vnchaſtities, the bawdes and ruffians of the Courte? Finally, very nature it ſelfe doth now as it wer expoſtulate with God for his ſo long ſufferáce and forbearing, and the very earth can no longer beare theſe monſters.

Nowe as touching the Admirals ſuppoſed conſpiracie, who can thinke it likely that hee

ſhoulde

ſhoulde enterpriſe any ſuche thing within the walles of Paris? For in the Court there is continually watching and warding a garriſon of the kings: and at the entrie of his caſtell the guardes of Gaſcoines, Scottes and Switzers, are continually attending: & the king hymſelfe both alwayes before, and ſpecially at that time, by reaſon of his ſiſters marriage, had a great trayne of Princes, great Lords, noblemen and gentlemen about him. Moreouer it was well knowne, that in Paris within three hours ſpace might be aſſembled and put in armoure three-ſcore thouſand choſen armed men, ſpecially againſt the Admiral, whom no man is ignorãt that the Pariſians moſt deadly hated: beſide that, the noble yõg men that came thither with the king of Nauarre and the Prince of Conde by reaſon of the mariage, and brought wyth them their wiues, their ſiſters and their kinſwomen, thoughte at that time ypon nothing but vpon triumph and exerciſes of paſtime, & gaye furniture of apparell and ornamentes. Finally, at whither of theſe two times can it be likely that the Admirall attempted this conſpiracie? was it before he was hurt? why? at that time he found the king his moſt louing, or at leaſte his moſte liberall and bountifull good

Lord:

Lord: neither coulde he hope euer to haue a more fauourable foueraigne in France. VVas it then after he was hurt? as though forsothe he lying sore of two so great woundes, aged, maimed of both his armes, the one whereof the Phisitions consulted whether it were to be cut off, accompanied with three hundreth yong men, would set vpō threscore thousand armed men, or in so small a time could lay the plot for so great, and so long and so heynous a fact: for he liued scarce fortie houres after his hurte, in which time he was enioyned by the Phisitions to forbeare talke. Againe, if he had bene detected of any such crime, was he not committed to Cosin and to his keping, and so enuironed, all the wayes beset about him, and so in the kings power, that if it had pleased the king he might at all times in a moment be caried to prison? why was not orderly enquire and iudiciall proceeding vsed according to the custome and lawes and generall right of nations, and witnesses produced according to the form of lawe? but be it that the Admirall and a fewe other of his confederats and followers had cōspired, why yet proceded the outragious cruelties vpon the rest that were innocent, why vpon ancient matrones, why vpon noble Ladies

and yong gentlewomen and virgins that came thither for the honor of the wedding? why were so many women greate with childe, against the lawes of al natiõs and of nature, before their deliuery throwen into the riuer? why were so many aged persons, manye that lay sicke in their beds, many gownemen, manye counsellers, aduocates, proctors, Phisitions, many singularly learned professors and teachers of good artes, and among the reste Petrus Ramus that renoumed man throughout the world, many yong studẽts, executed with out hearing, withoute pleading their cause, without sentence of condemnation? moreouer, if the Admirall had slaine the three brethren, who doubteth but that all countreyes, al Cities, all Parliaments, finally, all sortes and degrees of men would haue spedily taken armor and easily haue destroyed all of the Religion, hauing them enclosed within their townes, & hauing iust cause to render to al forrein nations for their common slaughters and killing of them? As to that which toucheth the king of Nauarre, what can be imagined more absurde and vnlikely? had not the Admirall him foure yeares in his power. Did not he profesſe the same Religion that the Admirall did? which

of

of those of the Religion, which of them I say (as Calsius was wont to reason) shoulde haue gained or receiued profit by the killing of the king of Nauarre? did not the Catholikes hate him? and the Admirall coulde not hope to haue any man more friendly to him, nor by any other mans meanes to haue reuenge of his iniurie. Lastlye, in their houses that were slaine, what armour, what weapons were foūd, by which coniectures iudges vse to be lead to trace oute a facte? These matters wise men throughout the towne of Paris commonlye muttered.

But now to retourne to our purpose. At such time as the Kings prohibition abouesaide was proclaimed at Paris, not only in other townes, as at Orleaunce, Angiers, Viaron, Troys, and Auxerre, the like butcheries and slaughters were vsed, but also in the towne of Paris it selfe, in the very gaoles that are ordeined for the keeping of prisoners, if any had escaped the crueltie of the day before, they were nowe tumultuously slayne by the raging and outraging multitude, in which number were three Gentlemen of great reputation, captaine Monins a man very famous in marciall prowesse, Lomen the kings secretarie, a man of greate e-

ſtimation for his long ſeruice in the Courte, and Chappes a lawyer neere fourſcore yeare olde, a man of great renowme in the Courte of Paris. And bycauſe we haue made mention of Angiers, we thinke it good not to omitte the caſe of Maſſon de Riuers. This man was a paſtor of the Church, and eſteemed a ſingular mā both in vertuouſneſſe of life, & in excellēce of wit and learning, & was the firſt that had layd the foundation of the Church at Paris. As ſone as the ſlaughter was begon at Paris, Monſorel a moſt cruell enimie of the Religion, was ſente to Angiers in poſt to preuente all other that might carie tidings of the murdering. As ſone as he came into the towne, he cauſed himſelfe to be brought to Maſſons houſe. There he met Maſſons wife in the entrie, and gently ſaluted hir, and after the maner of Fraūce, ſpecially of the Court, he kiſſed hir, and asked hir where hir husbād was, ſhe anſwered, that he was walking in the garden, and by & by ſhe broughte Mōſorel, to hir husband, who gētly embraced Maſſon and ſaid vnto him: Canſt thou tell why I am come hither: it is to kill thee by the Kings commaundement at this very inſtant time, for ſo hath the king commaunded, as thou mayſt perceiue by theſe letters, and therewith he ſhewed

wed him his dag ready charged. Maſſo anſwered that he was not guiltie of any crime, howbeit this one thing only he beſoughte him, to giue him ſpace to call to the mercie of God, and to commende his ſpirit into Gods hande. VVhiche prayer as ſoone as he had ended in fewe wordes, he meekely receiued the death offered by the other, and was ſhotte through with a pellet and dyed.

Now to retourne to Paris, the Admirals body being hanged vp by the heeles vppon the common gallowes of Paris, as is aforeſaid, the Pariſians went thither by heapes to ſee it. And the Queene mother to feede hir eyes with that ſpectacle, had a mind alſo to go thither, and ſhe caried with hir the king and both hir other ſonnes. But the nexte night following, the body was conueyed away, and (as it is thoughte) buried. About that time, where as many of the Court ſecretly muttered that the king ſhoulde by this fact incurre diſhonoure, not only amõg forreine nations, but alſo with all poſteritie in time to come for euer, Moruillier, of whome we haue made mention before, one that is accompted the principal lewde practiſer and wicked ſycophant of all Fraunce, and the firſt authoure and chiefe meane of bringing the Ieſu-

ites into France, came to the Queene mother and tolde hir that it was beſt that ſome of thoſe that were lately taken fleyng and hiding themſelues ſhould for maners ſake be brought to open iudgemẽt, and after the accuſtomed maner ſhould be enquired vpon, that they might be condemned by the Sentence of certaine iudges piked out for that purpoſe, and ſo opẽly executed in ſight of the people. There were called to counſell herevpon Birage, Limege, Thuan and Belleure. They not only allowed Moruilliers opinion, but alſo gaue aduiſe, that a man of hey made in figure for the Admirall (for his body, as we haue ſaide, coulde not bee foũd) ſhould be dragged by the Boureau thorough the ſtreates, his armes and enſignes of honoure broken, his memorie condemned, his caſtels and fermes raſed, his children pronounced infamous, vnnoble, and inteſtable, and all the trees in his woods to be hewen downe to the heighth of ſixe foote. There was among thoſe that were apprehended, one Cauaignes, maſter of Requeſts to the King, and Briquemault, of whome we haue before ſpokẽ. This Briquemault had ſpente his time in ſeruice in the old warres in the time of king Frauncis and king Henry, and was for the warre accompted

a man

a man of great experience among the beſt now liuing, and was neare about threeſcore and ten yeares olde. As ſone as they were caried into priſon, there were preſented vnto them all the tormenter and the hangman, and they were threatned with torture and tearing their bodies in peeces, vnleſſe they woulde preſentlye ſubſcribe with their owne hand, that they were of counſell with the Admirall to kill the King and his brethren, and the Queene mother, and the king of Nauarre. They all cryed out that they were readye to ſuffer deathe moſt willingly foraſmuche as the kings pleaſure was it ſhould be ſo: but ſo great torture they coulde not beare, and therefore humbly beſought his royall goodneſſe and clemencie to pardon thē that torment, and yet truſting vpon the mercie of God, they hoped that they ſhould ſuffer exceeding great paynes, rather than ſtaine thēſelues with ſo great ſhame, or confeſſe an vntrue crime againſt themſelues. They that were firſt aſsigned their iudges, hearing their cryes and defenſes, and fearing the iudgemente of the worlde, ſaide plainly that they would not drawe vpon themſelues moſte aſſured infamie for condemning them. Therefore there were newe iudges appointed in their places: to

them was adioyned ſuch a tormenter and notarie, as were thoughte fitteſt for the purpoſe. And ſo Briquemault & Cauaignes were quickly condemned by a ſhadowed forme of lawe, and led to the gibbet ſtanding in the principall ſtrete of the towne, and in ſight of many thouſands of men gazing at them. To this ſpectacle the Queene mother ledde the King and hir other ſonnes, and hir ſonne in lawe the King of Nauarre.

It was thought commodious for playing of this laſt acte, that Briquemault ſhould in hearing of all the people aske pardon of the king, and for that purpoſe there were ſome ſuborned to put him in minde, that if he woulde he might eaſily purchaſe his life, for the king was of nature full of clemencie and mercy, and if he woulde aske pardon of his maieſtie with confeſsing his offence, he ſhoulde eaſily obtaine it. He anſwered with a valiaunt and bold courage, that it was not his part but the kings to aske pardon of God for this fault, and that he would neuer craue forgiueneſſe of that offence wherof he well knew himſelfe and had God to witneſſe that he was cleare and innocent. Neuertheleſſe, he beſought God to forgiue the king this fault. So were theſe two excellent

cellent and famous men with halters fastened aboute their necks throwne by the hangman from the ladder and hanged, and therewithall also the man of strawe made for figure of the Admirall, was tied fast and hanged with them, after a prepostерous order of lawe, wherby the Admirall was first slayne and then condemned.

But wheras in a manner in all townes there were great slaughters committed, yet was there none more horrible nor more outragious than the butcherly murder at Lions. So soone as the letters from the Court were brought to Mandelot gouernour of the towne: first, by a cryer and trumpet he caused to be proclaymed, that all the professours of the Religion shoulde appeare presently before him at his house. They without all delay repayred to him. As soone as they were come, he commaunded them all to suffer themselues to be led to priso by such officers as should be assigned them. They obeyed his word and followed the officers that led the. By reason of the great multitude, they sorted them into sundry prisons. Then Mandelot willed the common executioner to be commaunded in his name to take some to helpe him, and to kill those that were in prison. The executioner aunswered, that he vsed not to ex-

ecute the law vpon any but such as were condemned, and in publike and open places, and therefore willed him to seeke another slaughter man if he would. Mandelot thus refused by the executioner, commaunded the garison souldiers of the castle to do it. The souldiers aunswered that it was against their honoure, to vse weapō vpon men bound and lying suppliant before them. If they had raysed any rebellion, or had offended or prouoked them, they said they would most readily haue fought with them. Beeing thus refused by them also, at the last he committed the matter to the watermen and butchers. Those fellowes being let into the prisons, wente to it with chopping knives and butchers axes. Such as they found prostrate at their feete, piteously holding vp their hands to heauen, crying vppon the mercie of God and men, they did for sport cut off their fingers and the toppes of their handes, and throughout the whole towne was heard such a crie and lamentable howling of women and children, that innumerable people, euen suche as were zelously giuen euen to the popish Religion, did detest that crueltie, and iudged that not mē but outragious sauage beastes in shape of men were entred into the prisons. It is well knowne, that

a great

a great number of honeſt women in the towne great with childe, were ſo ſlighted with the horror of it, that they were deliuered before their time. And out of the Courte of the gaole called the Archbiſhops priſon, the bloud was ſeene in the broad day light, to the great abhorring and feare of many that beheld it, runne warme and ſmoking into the next ſtretes of the town, and ſo downe into the Riuer of Sene. There was in that ſame Archbiſhops priſon an aged man called Francis Collut, a marchant of cappes, and two yong men his ſonnes, whome he had euer cauſed diligently to be taught and inſtructed in Religion. When he ſawe the butchers come towarde him with their Axes, he began to exhort his children not to refuſe the death offred by God. For (ſaid he) it is the perpetuall deſtinie of Religion, and that often ſuche ſacrifices do betide in chriſtian Churches, and Chriſtians in all ages haue euer bene and for euer to the worlds end ſo ſhalbe as ſheepe among wolues, doues among hawkes, and ſacrifices among prieſts. Then the old father embraced his two yong ſonnes, and lying flat on the ground with them, crying aloude vpon the mercie of God, was with many wounds both he and his ſonnes ſlaughtered by thoſe butchers: and long time

afterward their three bodies had knit together yelded a piteous ſpectacle to many that beheld them. In the meane time Mandelot inieſt and ſcorne (as it ſeemed) cauſed to be proclaymed by the cryer, that no man ſhoulde committe any ſlaughter in the towne, and that if any woulde detect the doers of any ſuch ſlaughter, he woulde giue him a hundred crownes in reward for his information. And from that time they ceaſſed not to kill, to robbe and to ſpoyle. The nexte day after, which was the firſt day of September, the greateſt parte of the dead bodies were throwen into the River of Sene, and the reſt of them Mandelot, to feede and glut his eyes and heart with bloud, cauſed to be caried by boate to the other ſide of the water, and there to be throwen downe vppon the greene graſſe nere vnto the Abbey called Eſne. There the people of Lions, ſpecially the Italians, of whom by reaſon of the marte there is great ſtore in the towne, ſatisfied their eyes a while, and did ſuch ſpites as they could to theſe heapes of carcaſes, and ſo exerciſed their crueltie not vppon the liuing only, but alſo vpon the dead. And there hapned one thing whiche for the abhominable crueltie is not to be omitted. There came to that ſpectacle certaine apothecaries,

theatries, and among those bodies they perceiued some verye fat ones, by and by they went to the butchers, and told them that they did vse to make certaine special medicines of mans greace, and that they might make some profite thereof: VVhiche assoone as the butchers vnderstoode, they ranne to the heapes and chose out the fattest, and launced them with their knives, and pulled out the fat, and sold it for money to the apothecaries.

VVhile these things were doing at Lions, the king being enfourmed that diuers of the Religion had left their wiues and children, and were fled out of the other townes, and lurked some in the woodes, and some among their friends such as tooke pitie on them, he practised with faire words to allure and call them home againe. He sent to euerie part messengers and letters, affirming that he was highly displeased with those slaughters and horrible butcheries, and that he would that such cruelties should be seuerely punished: and if the Admirall with a fewe of his confederates had entred into anye secrete practize, it was no reason, that so many innocents should beare the punishment due to a few. Many sweetely beguiled with these wordes of the king and with the letters of the go-

uernours, retired home againe to their dwellings and houſes, ſpeciallye they of Rhoan, Diepe, and Tholouſe. There were ſcant two dayes paſſed when they were againe cõmaunded to priſon, where they were all ſhutte vp. Then were murderers a new appointed of the moſt baſe and raſcall of the people, to torment them with all kind of torture, and then to ſlaye them. And throughout the whole realme of Fraunce for thirtie dayes togither there was no ende of killing, ſlaying and robbing, ſo that at this day there are about a hundreth thouſande little babes, widowes and children, that were well borne, that now fatherleſſe and motherleſſe liue wandering and in beggerie. Aboute this time the King cauſed to be proclaimed, that ſuch as had any office or place of charge, vnleſſe they would ſpedily returne to the Catholike, Apoſtolique and Romiſhe Churche, ſhould giue ouer thoſe their tempotall roomes. There was no towne nor any ſo ſmall a village or hamlet wherin all the profeſſors of the Religiõ wer not compelled either to go to Maſſe, or preſently to take the ſword into their boſomes: and in many places it happened that ſuch as being amazed with the ſodaineneſſe of the matter had abiured their Religion, yet not-

withstanding were afterward slaine.

And while these things were still in doing, yet the king in the meane while sent abrod his letters and messages into all partes, and caused to be proclaimed with trumpet, that his pleasure was that the Edictes of pacification should be obserued: and although they coulde not haue freedome to vse and exercise their Religion in open places, yet they should haue libertie permitted them to retaine and professe it within their owne houses, and that no man should medle with or disturbe the goods and possessions of those of the Religion.

And the same King which but fewe dayes before, had by letters directed to all the gouernours of his Prouinces signified that his cousin the Admirall was slaine by the Duke of Guise to his great sorowe, and that himselfe was in great daunger, the same King I say, now caused it with sound of trumpet to be proclaimed that the trayterous and wicked Admirall was slaine by his will and commaundement. He that in fewe dayes before had by newe authoritie confirmed the libertie of Religion permitted by his Edicts of pacification, the same king did now not onely take from the professors thereof their offices and honours, but also pre-

prescribed them in precise fourme of wordes & fourme of abiuring and detesting their Religion. VVhich things leaste anye man shoulde doubt of, we shall hereafter set downe the verie true copyes of the sayde Letters, Edictes and Abiuration.

THE KINGS LETTERS, TO the Gouernours of Burgundie, wherby he chargeth thoſe of the houſe of Guyſe, for the murder committed vpon the Admirals perſon, and for the ſedition which hapned at Paris, and commaundeth that the Edict of Pacificatiõ ſhould be kept and reteined.

COuſin, you haue perceyued what I wrote vnto you yeſterday, concerning my couſin the Admirals wounding, and how readie I was to do my endeuour to ſearch out the truth of the deed, and to puniſh it, wherein nothing was left vndone or forgotten. But it happened ſince, that they of the houſe of Guyſe, and other Lordes and Gentlemen their adherents (whereof there be no ſmall number in this Citie) when they certainely knewe that the Admirals friendes would proceede to the reuenge of his hurt, and bicauſe they were ſuſpected to bee the authours thereof, were ſo ſtirred vp this laſt night, that a great and lamentable ſedition aroſe therof, inſomuch that the Garde by me appointed for his defence about his houſe, was ſet vpon, and he himſelfe with certaine of his Gentlemen ſlaine, and hauock of other made in diuers places of the Citie: which was handled with ſuch a rage, that I coulde not vſe the remedie that I woulde, but had

much ado to employ my Gardes and other defence for the safetie of my self and my brethren within the castle of Louure, to giue order hereafter for the appeasing of this seditiõ, which is at this houre wel appeased thankes be to God, and came to passe by a particular and priuate quarell of long time fostered betwixte those two houses. Whereof when I foresawe that there woulde succeede some mischieuous purpose, I did what I could possibly to appease it, as all men knowe. And yet hereby the Edicte of Pacification is not broken, which I will to bee kepte as straightly as euer it was, as I haue giuen to vnderstand in al places throughout my Realme. And bicause it is greatly to be feared, that such an execution might stirre vp my subiectes, one against another, and cause great murders through the cities of my Realme, whereby I should be greatly grieued, I pray you cause to bee published and vnderstoode in all places of your gouernement, that euery person abide and continue in the safegarde of his own house, and to take no weapons in hande, nor one to hurt another vpon paine of death: commaunding them to kepe & diligently to obserue our Edicte of Pacification. And to make the offenders and resisters, and such as would disobey and breake our will, to be punished, you shal assemble out of hand as great force

as you can, as well of your friendes as of thē that be appointed by me and of others, aduertising the captaines of Castles and Cities in your gouernement, to take heede to the safegarde and preseruation of the sayde places, so that no fault ensue on their behalfe, aduertising me also so soone as you can, what order you haue giuen herein, and how al things haue passed within the circuite of your gouernement. Herevpon I pray God to keepe you, Cousin, in his holie safegarde. At Paris the xxiiij. of August. Signed CHARLES, and vnderneath, BRVLARD.

ANOTHER LETTER FROM the King to the Lorde of Prye, his Lieutenant generall in Touraine, vpon the same matter that the former Letter was.

MOnsieur de Prie, you haue vnderstoode howe my cousin the Admirall was hurt the last day, and in what readinesse I was to do as much as in me lay, for the tryall of the fact, and to cause so gret and spedie iustice to be done as should be an example throughout all my Realme, wherin nothing was omitted. Since it is so happened, that my cousins of the house of Guise, and other Lords and Gentlemen their adherents, which are no smal

partie in this towne, as all men know, hauing gotten certaine intelligence that the friendes of my sayd cousin the Admirall intended to pursue and execute vpon them the reuenge of this hurte, for that they had them in suspicio to be the cause and occasion therof, haue made such a stirre this night passed, that among them on both partes hath beue raised a great and lamentable tumulte: the Garde that was set about the Lorde Admirals house, was distressed, himself slayne in his house with diuers other Gentlemen, as also great slaughter hath ben made of other in sundrie places and quarters of this towne: which hath bene done with such furie, that it was impossible for me to giue such remedie as was to be wished, I hauing enough to do to employe my Garde and other forces to kepe myselfe in safetie in the Castle of Louure, to the end to giue order for the appeasing of the whole vproare, which at this houre (thankes bee to God) is well quenched, for that the same happened by the particular quarell that hath of long time bene betwene those two houses, whereof alwayes hauing some doubt that some vnhappie effecte woulde ensue, I haue (as is well knowne to all men) before this time done all that I coulde for to appease it, nothing in this last fact tending to the breache of my Edicte of Pacification, which contrary wise I

will

will in all things to be mainteined, as at any time heretofore, as I do giue it to vnderstand thorowout my Realme. And forasmuche as it is greatly to be feared that this may stirre vp and cause my subiectes to rise one against another, and to commit great slaughters in the townes of my Realme, whereof I would be maruellously sorie, I pray you that immediatly vpon the receyte hereof, ye cause to be published and done to vnderstande in al places of your charge, that euery man as wel in towne as in countrey, remaine in reste and suretie in his house, and do not take armes one against another, on payne of death: And that more diligently than at any time heretofore, yee cause the last Edict of Pacification to be kepte and carefully mainteyned and obserued. To the intente abouesayde, and to punish such as shall do to the contrary, and to distresse all suche as shall rise and dysobey our pleasure, ye shal immediately assemble all the strength that ye are able, as well of your friends being of our allowance as others, aduertising the gouernors, and captaines of townes and Castels within your charge, that they take good heede to the suretie and safe keeping of their peeces, in such sort as there ensue no default, informing me with speede of such order as you shall take therin, and how all things shall proceede within the compasse of your

authoritie. I haue here with me my brother the King of Nauarre, and my Couſin the Prince of Conde, to take ſuche hap as my ſelfe. I pray the creator, Monſier de Prye, to holde you in his holy ſafegarde. From Paris this. xxiiij. of Auguſt. Thus ſigned CHARLES, and vndereth PINART. Theſe letters are all of one argument as the former be, and written all in one forme, and al one day to Monſier de Prye the Lieutenant of Touraine.

THE KINGS LETTERS TO the officers of Burges, vpon the ſame matter that the former were.

OVr louing and faithfull, we doubt not but by this time you knowe of the ſedition which to our great griefe happened in Paris a fewe dayes ſithens, wherin my Couſin the Admirall, and certaine others of his ſide were ſlaine, and a great murder committed vpon diuerſe in many places of this Citie. And leaſt the newes thereof ſhould change the quiet eſtate, wherein Burges hath hitherto ben maintained ſince the Edict of Pacification, if remedie were not foreſeene, it is the cauſe that we writ this letter preſently vnto you, whereby we commaund and expreſſely ordeine that euerie

rie one of you according to his charge do see that no commotion or insurrection be against the inhabitants of the sayde Citie, nor that no murder be committed, as it is to be feared, by those which pretend to breake the Edict of Pacification, and thereby would execute a reuenge of their long & priuate grudge, to our incredible vexation and anguishe of minde. For this cause it is your part to giue to vnderstand and publishe throughout that Citie of ours and other places pertaining to it, that euery one should quietly and peacibly kepe their houses, without taking weapons in hande, and offending one the other, vpon paine of death, and well and diligently to kepe our Edict of Pacification. And if any goe about to contrarie this our intent and minde, to cause them to be punished and rigorously chastised by penalties imposed on such offendours in our ordinances, hauing a watchfull and diligent eye to the safegarde of that our Citie, in such sort that no inconueniente arise in your seruice towardes vs, as you woulde haue vs to knowe, that you are our loyall and obedient subiectes. Giuen at Paris the xxvij. day of August. 1572. Thus signed, CHARLES, and below. De neuf-ville.

A LETTER OF THE TREASORER of the leagues of the Switzers, written by the Kings commaundement vnto the sayd Leagues, of the same argument that the former letters were.

NOble Seigniours, Monsieur de la Fontaine, Ambassador for the King your assured and perfect friend & confederate, and I his Treasorer in this countrey, hauing commaundement of his maiestie to communicate with you, as with them whome he accompteth his chiefe and sure friends, of a chaunce which lately happened in the Citie of Paris, his owne person and court then being there, wherof he receiued so much more griefe and displeasure, bicause it befell on such a time as he least feared, or loked for such a thing. The matter is this. On the xxvij. day of August last, the Admirall as he went from Louure, was with an harquebuze shot hurte in the hande and arme, whereof when his maiestie was aduertised, he commaunded incontinent that search and punishment were had of the offendour, and the authors of such a mischiefe: whervnto when he had readilie layde his hande by his officers, and committed the inhabitantes of the house, where the harquebuze was shot, to prison, they which were the

cause

cause firste of the mischiefe (as it maye easily be presupposed) bicause they woulde preuente the inquisition therof, heaping one transgression vpon another, on the .xxiij. and .xxiiij. of the said moneth assembled a great troupe of people in the night, and moued the people of Paris to a verye great sedition, who in a rage set vpon the Admirals lodging, and enforcing the Garde which his Maiestie had set for the Admirals suretie and keping, slewe him with certaine other gentlemen in his companie, as the like also was committed vpon others in the Citie, the matter growing in the verie same instant to suche an outrage and commotiō, that whereas his Maiestie had thought to prouide remedie for appeasing thereof, he had much a doe with all his Gardes to kepe his house at Louure, where he lodged with the two Queens, his mother and the Spouse, the Lords his brethrē, the King of Nauarre and other Princes. Thinke therefore ye noble Seigniours, in what a perplexitie this yong and couragious King now standeth, who, as a man may saye, hath helde in his hande thornes in steade of a Scepter euer since his comming to the Crowne, for the great troubles which haue almost euer since beene in his Realme, and therefore by the good and wise counsell and assistance of the Queene his mother and the Lords his

brethren, thought to enioy and establishe a more sure repose in his Realme, and a more happie gouernement for himselfe and his subiectes, after he had taken away (as he thought) all occasions of dissentions amongst his subiectes by the meanes of his Edicts of Pacifications, and of the mariage of the King of Nauarre to the Ladie his sister, and the Prince of Code to Madame de Neuers. Besides all this, to the intent nothing should be lefte vndone that mighte serue for the quieting of all things, and especially for the Admirals safegard, his Maiestie as euery man knoweth hath done his endeuour to the vttermost, to appease and reconcile his principall and most daungerous enimyes vnto him. And so God the true iudge of the Kings Maiesties good and pure intent, brought to passe, that the peoples rage being quieted within a few houres, euery one went home to his house, and the king had speciall regard to nothing more than to see nothing attempted or innouated contrarie to his Edicts of Pacification, and the repose of his subiectes aswell of the one Religion, as of the other. And for that purpose hath sent to diuerse of his Gouernours and Officers in his prouinces, to loke diligently to the obseruing of his Edictes, with expresse commaundement to holde their handes there, that euerie one might perceiue

that

that the chaunce at Paris happened for some priuate quarell, and not for any purpose to alter his Edicts, which his Maiestie will in no wise suffer. VVhich is the principall thing, noble Seigniours, that his Maiestie hath commaunded vs on his parte to assure you, and to let you vnderstand the daungers that depende ouer him and his neighbours, not so much for this sedition, for he trusteth in God that shall growe no further, and his Maiestie wil kepe his Realme in as good repose as it hath bene since his last Edict of Pacification, but for the great mustering and assembling men of warre in many places, specially in the low coũtreyes, where it is yet vncertaine on which side God will giue the victorie, nor whether the conqueror will employ his force, after his conquest. VVherefore his Maiestie prayeth you, continuing the good loue and intelligence which hath always bene betwixt the Crowne of Fraunce and his allied and confederate friendes the Seigniours of the Leagues, to haue good regarde to him, and his Realme, in case that neede shall require, as he will haue to you and your prosperous estate, if it be requisite, employing in the meane whyle your great and singular wisedome to the preseruation of the vnion of the Nation in League, which is the onely cause to make you, not onely able to send

ſuccour to your friends, but alſo maintaine your ſelues in eſtimation, that you may be a terrour to your neighbours, how great ſo euer they be, his maieſtie promiſing you in all occurrentes as much friendſhip, fauour and aſsiſtance, as you can deſire, and to be as entier and perfect a friend, as euer your nation had any.

A DECLARATION OF THE King, concerning the occaſion of the Admirals death and his adherents and complices, happened in the Citie of Paris the. 24. of Auguſt. 1572.

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BY THE KING.

His Maieſtie deſiring to haue all Seigniours, Gentlemen, and other his ſubiects, vnderſtand the cauſe of the murder of the Admirall and his adherentes and complices, which lately happened in this Citie of Paris the. xxiiij. day of this preſent moneth of Auguſt, leaſt the ſaid deede ſhould be otherwiſe diſguiſed and reported than it was in deede: his Maieſtie therfore declareth that which

was

was done, was by his expresse commaundement, & for no cause of Religion, nor breaking his Edictes of Pacification, which he alwayes entended, and still mindeth and entendeth to obserue and keepe: yea it was rather done to withstand and preuent a most detestable and curssed conspiracie begon by the sayd Admirall the chiefe captaine therof, and his sayd adherents and complices, against the kings person, his estate, the Queene his mother and the Princes his brethren, the King of Nauarre, and other Lordes about him. Wherefore his Maiestie by this declaration and ordinaunce giueth to vnderstand to all Gentlemen and others of the Religion which they pretend refourmed, that he mindeth and purposeth that they shall liue vnder his protection, with their wiues and children in their houses in as much safegarde as they did before, following the benefite of the former Edictes of Pacification, most expressely commaunding and ordaining, that all Gouernours and Lieutenants generall in euerie of his Countreyes and Prouinces, and other Iustices and Officers to whom it appertaineth, do not attempt nor suffer to be attempted any thing in what sort soeuer, vpon the persons and goodes of them of the Religion, their wiues, children, and families, on paine of death against the faultie and culpable in this behalfe.

And neuerthelesse to withstande the troubles, slaunders, suspicions, and defiances that may come by sermons and assemblies, aswell in the houses of the sayde Gentlemen, as in other places, as it is suffred by the sayde Edictes of Pacification: it is expressely forbidden, and inhibited by his Maiestie to all Gentlemen and others of the sayd Religion, to haue no assemblies for any cause at all, vntill his Maiestie hath prouided and appointed otherwise for the tranquillitie of his Realme, vpon paine of disobedience and confiscation of bodie and goods. It is also expressely forbidden vnder the paine aforesayd, that for the foresayd occasions, none shall take or retaine any prisoners, or take raunsome of them, and that incontinently they certifie the gouernours of euerie prouince, and the Lieutenante generall, of the name & qualitie of euerie such prisoner, whome his Maiestie hath appointed shall be released and set at libertie, except they be of the chiefe of the late conspiracie, or such as haue made some practise or deuise for them, or had intelligence thereof: and they shall aduertise his Maiestie of such, to know his further pleasure. It is also ordained, that from henceforth none shall take or arrest any prisoner for that cause, without his Maiesties commaundement or his Officers, nor that none be suffred to

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roame abroade in the fieldes, to take vp dogs, Cattell, Beefes, Kine, or other beaſtes, goods, fruites, graine, nor any thing elſe, nor to hurt the labourers by word or deede, but to let them alone about their worke and calling, in peace and ſafetie. At Paris the .xxviij. of Auguſt. 1572. Signed, CHARLES, and vnderneath, FIZES.

THE KINGS LETTERS TO the officers of Burges, of the ſame argument that the former declaration was.

OVr truſtie and welbeloued, we conſidering that vnder the colour of the death of the Admiral, and his adherents and complices, certaine Gentlemen, and others our ſubiectes, profeſſing the Religion called Refourmed, might riſe and aſſemble together to the preiudice and hinderance of the tranquillitie which we haue alwayes deſired ſhuld be in our Realme, the doyng of the ſaid murder being counterfeited and giuen out otherwiſe than it was. VVe haue therefore made a declaration & ordinance, which we ſend you, willing you to publiſhe the ſame incontinently by ſounde of Trumpet, and ſetting the ſame vp in ſuch places of your Iuriſdiction, where cryes and Proclamations are vſually made, to the ende that euery one might

knowe it. And although we haue alwayes bene diligent obseruers of our Edicts of Pacification, yet seyng the troubles and seditions which might arise amongst our subiects by the occasion of the sayd murder, as well of the Admirall as of his companions, we commaunde you, and ordeine, that you particularly forbid the principals of the Religion, pretended reformed, within your Iurisdiction, that they haue no sermons nor assemblies either in their houses, or in any other places, to take away all doubt and suspition which might be conceyued against them. And likewise that you aduertise such as dwell in the Cities of your Iurisdiction, what you iudge meete to be done, to the intent they might in this poynt follow our mind, and kepe them quiet in their houses, as they may do by the benefite of our Edict of Pacification, & there they shall be vnder our protection and safegarde: but if they will not so retyre themselues after you haue giuen them warning, then shall you set on them with all strength and force, aswell by the prouostes of the Marishals & their Archers, as others which you can gather together by Bell ringing or otherwise, so that you bewe them all to peeces as enimyes to our Crowne. Besides, what commaundements so euer we haue sent by worde of mouth eyther to you, or others

in our Realme, when we were in feare, vpon iuſte occaſion, knowing the conſpiracie that the Admirall had begon of ſome miſchaunce that might fall vnto vs, we haue and do reuoke, willing you and others that no ſuch thing be executed, for ſuch is our pleaſure. Giuen at Paris the .xxx. of Auguſt 1572. Thus ſigned, CHARLES, and vnderneath, De Neuf-ville. Publiſhed in iudgement.

REMEMBRAVNCES AND INſtructions ſent by the King to the Counte of Charny his generall Lieutenant in Burgundie, of the ſame argument.

THe King conſidering the commotion lately happened in Paris, wherein the L. Admirall Chaſtilion with other Gentlemen of his ſide were ſlaine, bicauſe they had miſcheuouſly conſpired to ſet vpon the Kings Maieſtie perſon, the Queene his mother the Princes his brethren, the King of Nauarre, and other Princes and Lordes neare about them, and vpon his eſtate: and leaſt they of the Religion called refourmed, not knowing the true cauſes of the ſayde rebellion, ſhould ariſe and put them ſelues in armes as they haue done in the troubles that be paſſed, and deuiſe newe practiſes and fetches againſt the weale of his Maieſtie and

tranquillitie of his Realme, if he should not cause the truth of the matter to be knowne to all Gentlemen and others his subiects of the same religion how it passed, and what his pleasure and mind is in their behalfes. And thinking that for remedie hereof it is verie needefull for the Gouernours of the Prouinces in his Realme to go rounde aboute their gouernementes: for this occasion he willeth that the Counte of Charnye greate Esquire of Fraunce, and his Maiesties Lieutenant generall for the gouernement of Burgundie, shall go diligently through all Cities and places of the sayde gouernement, and as he arriueth in euery place, he shall deuise the best wayes that he can to make peace, vnion and quietnesse amongst the Kings subiectes as well of the one Religion as of the other. And to bring it the better about, he shall gently call before him in open or priuate place as he shall see best cause for his Maiesties seruice herein, the Gentlemen of the places, and the Burgeses of the Cities of his gouernement, that be of the Religion, and shal declare vnto them, & cause them to vnderstand the truth of the sayd commotion, least any haue misreported it to them, otherwise than it was in deede. And shall tell them, that vnder the colour of the L. Admirals hurte, wherefore his Maiestie would haue caused iustice

to

to be done according to the good order that he had appointed, the sayde Admirall and Gentlemen of his Religion which were in the Citie with him, without looking for the execution of the sayde Iustice, had made a mischeuous, vnhappie, and detestable conspiracie against the Kings Maiesties person, the Queene his mother, the Lordes his brethrẽ, the King of Nauarre, and other Princes & Lords with them, and against the whole estate, euen as certaine of the chiefe and adherents of the sayd cõspiracie (acknowledging their fault) haue confessed. Wherefore his Maiestie was constrayned (to his great griefe) to resiste and preuent so mischieuous, pernicious and abhominable a purpose. And that which he suffered to be done on Sunday the xxiiij. of August vpon the Admiral and his complices, was not for any Religion, nor to goe against the Edict of Pacification, he entending neuertheless that they of the Religion should still liue and abyde in all libertie and safetie, with their wiues, childrẽ and families in their houses, as he hath and will maintaine them, if they be content to liue quietly vnder his obedience as he desireth. For the which cause he willeth, that the Counte Charnye shall offer and giue to them his letters of safegarde in good and authentyke fourme, which shal be of as good force and

vertue, as if they ſhoulde come or be taken from his owne Maieſtie: and by the authoritie of them, they ſhall be preſerued from all wrongs, violences, and oppreſſions: enioyning and forbidding moſt expreſſely all his catholike ſubiects whatſo euer they are to attempt nothing vpon the perſons, goods, or families of anye of the Religion which kepe themſelues quietly in their houſes, on paine of death. And if any be ſo raſhe, or euil adiuiſed, to do againſt this Iniunction, or to violate the ſafegard promyſed, his Maieſtie willeth that readie and rigorous puniſhment be done, to the intent that their example may ſerue to holde in others not to doe the like: which is the true and onely meanes of aſſurance that his Maieſtie can giue to them of the Religion, with his word and promiſe which he giueth them to be their good and benigne Prince, protector and preſeruer of them and of all that toucheth them, ſo long as they liue and continue vnder his obediance without doyng or enterpriſing any thing againſt his will and ſeruice. And bicauſe his Maieſtie hath of tẽ knowẽ that the enterpriſes and cõſultations taken in hand by them of the Religion againſt his ſeruice, haue bene concluded amongs them at aſſemblies at ſe. mons which Gentlemen had libertie to cauſe to be made in their houſes and Lordſhips,

therfore

therfore my L. of Charnye shal particularly giue to vnderstand to Gentlemen which were wont to haue such sermons, that his Maiestie in consideration that nothing hath more moued and set on the Catholikes against those of the Religion thã such preachings and assemblies, and if they continue it is certaine that it wil be a cause to encrease and maintaine the sayd commotions, desireth that they should cause them to cease off vntill he hath otherwise prouided and appointed, and that they applie themselues herevnto as a thing greatly seruing the effect of his intention, which is gently to bring his sayd subiects to a true and perfect amitie, vnion and concord one with another, committing all diuisions and partialities to obliuion. And bicause this may seme hard at the begining, my L. of Charnye shall cause it to be faire and gently spoken to them, least they enter into some straunge coniecture or suspition. For so his saide Maiestie would proceede in all true sincerities towardes them which conforme themselues to his will and obedience, wherin he exhorteth them to liue, with all the best perswasions that he can, and shall assure them in so dayng to be surely maintained and preseued as his other subiects the Catholikes, as his Maiestie would that he shoulde doe. And to the intent his sayd subiects the Catho-

likes ſhould knowe howe to vſe and behaue them ſelues herein, my L. of Charnye ſhall tell thē, that his Maieſties pleaſure neither is nor hath bene that any wrong or oppreſſion ſhould be done to them of the ſayde Religion, which like good and loyall ſubiects will gently kepe themſelues vnder his obedience. Declaring vnto the ſayd Catholikes, that if they forget themſelues and hurt thoſe of the Religion which in ſuch ſort behaue themſelues toward his Maieſtie, and thoſe alſo which for that ende haue receiued of his Maieſtie or of my L. of Charnye letters of ſafeconduite, he will cauſe them to be puniſhed and chaſtiſed in the fielde, as tranſgreſſours of his commaundementes, without any hope of grace, pardon, or remiſſion. Which the ſayd L. of Charnye ſhall expreſſe and declare vnto them, with as plaine words as is poſſible, and cauſe it alſo to be as ſtraightly executed. And after that following his Maieſties intent, he hath pacified them by this meanes, which is the waye that his Maieſtie beſt liketh of, & ſearched the diſpoſitiō to aſſure a trāquillitie betwixt the ſubiectes and to ſet ſome aſſuraunce betwixt the one and the other, ſuch as ſhall conforme themſelues herein to his ſayd Maieſties will, he will comfort, and make them the beſte and moſt gentle entertainement that he poſſibly can. But if any of the

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Religion become ſelfe willed and ſtubborne to his Maieſtie, without hauing regarde to his ſayde warnings, and ſhall aſſemble in armes together, making practiſes and deuiſes againſt the weale of his ſeruice, then the L. of Charnye ſhall runne vpon them and beate them in pieces before they haue power to fortifie them ſelues and ioyne together. And therfore he ſhall aſſemble as muche force as he can, as well of the ordinarie, as of other men of warre, Souldiers, Footemen of the garriſons, and inhabitants of the Catholikes within the Cities of his gouernement, and ſhall beſiege them which holde and make them ſelues ſtrong in Cities about of his gouernement, ſo that the victorie and authoritie may remaine in his Maieſtie. At Paris the xxx. of Auguſt, 1572. Signed, CHARLES: and vnderneath BRVLARD.

THE KINGS LETTERS TO the L. of Gwich, wherby it may plainely be perceiued, how they would ſearch out all them of the Religion which had anye charge in hand during the troubles.

MY L. of Gwiche, I vnderſtand that the iij. brethren Daggonels, and one Porcher the hoſt at the ſigne of the Aduenture, Moſſoner,

ſoner, Criſpine, and Captaine Griſe, which were the principall of the faction in Burgundie, and were the cauſe of the taking and recouering of the Citie of Maſcon in the late troubles, and of all the decay which happened in that countrey, be kept priſoners in Maſcon. And bicauſe I vnderſtande they hope to eſcape out by rãſome (which I would in no wiſe ſhould be done) I ordeine and commaũd that you kepe them ſafe, for as muth as I hope by their meanes to diſcouer a great many things which greatly touch the weale of my ſeruice. And if there be any other priſoners of the new Religion in Maſcon, which haue bene factious, you ſhall likewiſe kepe them, ſo that they eſcape not by paying ranſome, for I would not for any thing in the world that there ſhould be taking of ranſome among my ſubiects. And thus my L. of Gwiche I pray God kepe you in his holy tuition. VVritten at Paris the. xiiij. of September. 1572. Signed, CHARLES, and vnderneath, BRVLARD.

THE

THE KINGS LETTERS TO

Monsieur de Gordes his Lieutenaunt generall in Daulphine, wherein he sendeth him worde, that the best proofe of his doings is the accusations and complaintes of them of the Religion against him, whereunto he shoulde haue care to answere.

MOnsieur De Gordes, by your letters of the first of this moneth I perceiued the order which you appoynted in your Gouernement since the aduertisement which you had of the execution of the Admirall and his adherentes: and since I am sure you forget nothing which you thought might serue for your assurance of those places wherof you had occasion to doubt. And to the intent you shoulde haue the more meanes to make your selfe knowne, I haue prepared that the souldiers of Corsica which I had appointed to go into Prouince, should returne to you, and thereupon haue written to my Cousin the Counte of Tende, who will not faile to send them vnto you, for as much as there is no neede of them now in that countrey. He should also send you word of the time of their departing, to the ende that you might haue laysure to prouide to receiue them, and appoint their places where they should be in garri-

ſon. I haue ſeen that which you writ to me tãcerning the cõtinuall payment in Dauſphine, what is due for the laſt yeare, wherupon I will aduiſe of the ſtate of my fines the meanes that may be, and according thervnto there ſhalbe no fault, but they ſhal be prouided for. For the reparation of the Bridge of Grenoble, they of the ſame place muſt deuiſe the meanes wherin they ſhould beſt helpe themſelues therin, and when they haue aduertiſed me, I will appoint them neceſſarie prouiſion. Touching the ſouldiers appointed for the Baron of Adreſſe, bicauſe the occaſion why I appointed thẽ to be leuied now ceaſeth, I haue written to him to ſend them backe and diſmyſſe them againe: wherfore there is no neede to make prouiſion for their maintenance, nor likewiſe to tell you any thing elſe concerning the anſweres which you haue made to the remembrances which they of the Religion haue preſented againſt you. For your doyngs are well knowne and plaine vnto me, and thervpon I will take no better proofe than their accuſation. Wherfore you ſhall put your ſelfe to no more paine on that ſide. Moreouer I haue herewith ſent you a copie of the declaration which I made of the Admirals death and his adherents, & made to be vnderſtoode that it ſhould be obſerued and followed, and that all murders, ſackings,

and

and violences ſhould ceaſe. Neuertheleſſe I haue heard complaints of diuerſe places that ſuch extraordinary wayes continue, which is a thing, that doth much diſpleaſe me. By the meanes wherof I aduiſe you, in doyng this charge once againe put vnto you, that you giue order throughout your gouernement to cauſe all hoſtilitie, force, and violence to ceaſe, and that the ſayd declaration be ſtraightly obſerued and kept, with puniſhing thoſe that withſtand, ſo rigorouſly, that the demonſtration thereof may ſerue for an example, ſeyng my intent is that they ſhould be puniſhed as behoueth, and to marke them which wincke or diſſemble therat. This preſent letter ſhall ſerue alſo for an aduiſe of the receipt of thoſe letters which you wrote the .v. of this preſent, whereby you ſend me word, that you receiued no meſſage by word of mouth from me, but onely letters of the .xxij. xxiiij. and .xxviij. of the moneth paſſed, whereof put your ſelfe to no further paine, for that charge was only for ſuch as then were neare about me, which is all that I haue at this time to ſay vnto you. Praying herevpon the Creator to kepe you in his holy and worthy tuition. VVritte at Paris the .iiij. day of Septẽber. Signed CHARLES, and beneath EIZES. And aboue. To M. de Gordes knight.

THE KINGS LETTERS TO the Duke of Guise, his Lieutenant generall in Champaigne and in Prye.

COusin, although in all my former letters I haue giuē you to vnderstand well inough how much I desire that al my subiects, as wel of the nobilitie as others which professe the new Religion, & quietly vse them selues in your gouernement, should by you be maintained and preserued in all suretie vnder my protection and safegard, without giuing them any hinderance by trouble in their persons, goods, and families: yet neuertheless I haue beene aduertised that in certaine places of my Realme there haue bene many sackings and pillings done by such as dwell in the houses of them of the sayd new Religion, as well in the fieldes as in the Cities, vnder colour of the cōmotion which happened in my Citie of Paris the .xxiiij. day of August last, a thing beyond all measure displeasant and disagreable vnto me, and for the which I would haue prouision and remedie. Wherfore I pray you, Cousin, that aboue all things as you desire that I should knowe the good affection you beare to the good weale of my seruice, you take that matter next your hart to preserue and maintaine within your gouernment according to that

which

which I haue ſo plainely told and written to you heretofore, that all ſuche of the newe Religion which behaue them ſelues quietly, take no wrong or violence, whether it be for the preſeruation of of their goodes or perſons, no more than to my Catholike ſubiectes. And where any wrong or outrage ſhal be offred them againſt my will, as I haue before declared, ſo doe I nowe by theſe preſentes declare, I will and intende that you ſhall make ſome euident and notorious puniſhment of ſuch as are herein culpable, ſo that their correction may ſerue for an example of all other, that I may ſee my ſelf throughly obeyd herein as I would be, and my commaundementes receyued amongeſt all my Subiects in another ſorte than they haue bene heretofore. Aſſuring you couſin, that the beſte newes that I ſhall receiue from you, ſhall bee to beare ſay that you chaſtiſe thoſe well, of whome I am diſobeyed. And thus Couſin, I praye God to kepe you in his holie tuition.

Written from Paris the xxviij. of September. 1572.

Signed

CHARLES:

And vnderneath

BRVLART.

REMEMBRANCES SENT BY the King to all gouernours, and Lieutenantes of his Prouinces, to put out and remoue all those of the Religion from their estates and charges, although they would abiure the same, sauing such as haue but small estates and offices, to whom his Maiestie permitteth continuance, on conditiō that they abiure the sayd Religion according to the forme of Abiuration sent for that purpose.

THe King considering how much his officers and Magistrates of Iustice, and such as haue the administration and dealing of his Fynes and payments, which be of the newe Religion, are suspect and hated, and put his Catholike subiects in great mistrust if they should presently exercise their offices after these freshe commotions, for cause that the sayd offices be in their handes that nowe kepe them: therfore least the people shoulde therby be brought to a newe occasion of stirre, & they of the new Religion be in daūger or hazard of their owne persons, although they woulde abiure their sayde newe Religion, and professe the holy faith and Catholike Religion of Rome: his Maiestie desiring to auoyde the new mischiefes

and

and troubles which maye come, hath aduised to discharge the sayd officers from the exercise of the sayde offices, vntill he shall otherwise appoint. And yet neuertheless, in the meane while, if the sayde officers be obediente vnto his will, and liue quietly in their houses, without attempting, practising or taking any thing in hande against his seruice, they shall receiue their wages, and they that will resigne their sayd offices to Catholike persons, and come to his Maiestie shal be verie honorably prouided for. And as touching other small offices without wages, which cannot be troublesome, as Notaries, Sergeants, and such where the officers haue none authoritie, which cānot be so odious nor mistrustfull to the people as the other, his Maiestie is aduised, that such smal officers which will abiure the sayd newe Religion, and professe the faith Catholike, Apostolike, and Romishe, and therin liue continually hereafter, shall continue in the exercise and enioying of their estates: but they that will continue in their newe opinion, shall depart from their offices, vntill his Maiestie hath otherwise prouided. And this is for the great mischiefe and inconuenience that maye betyde them, if they shoulde exercise their sayd estates, bicause of the great mistrust and suspition which the Catholikes haue conceiued

ned of them of the newe Religion. Neuerthelesse his Maiestie well considering that the moste part of the sayd officers haue none other way to liue, but the exercise of their said offices, willeth that they shall be in choyse to resigne to Catholike and capable persons, and then to come to him for that effect, and he will graunt them the greatest fauour and moderation of his treasorie that is possible. The which resolution and pleasure of his Maiestie he willeth to be declared to the sayd officers of the new pretended opinion, as well by gouernours and Lieutenants generall of his Prouinces, as by them of his Courtes of Parliament, of the Chamber of his accomptes, of the Court of his aydes, them of his great Counsell, of the Treasorie of Fraunce, the Generals of his Fynes, his Baylifes, Seneshals, Prouosts, Iudges or their Lieutenants, and euery one of them as shall appertaine. And to this intent his Maiestie willeth and intendeth that euery one of them in their calling shall send particularly and apart for euery of the sayd officers of the newe Religion, which be of their incorporation, charge and Iurisdiction, and shall admonish them in this behalfe to conforme themselues to his Maiesties minde: and if any of them in authoritie, bicause of their said estates, wil returne to the bosome of the Catholike and Romish

Church,

Church, it ſhall be ſayd to them that his Maieſtie liketh verie well of it, and that he taketh a great and ſingular affection therein, and that it ſhall giue him the greater aſſurance and credit of their good will, and that his Maieſtie will not bar the from his ſeruice hereafter, but will prouide for them as their behauiour ſhall deſerue. And notwithſtanding, for the reaſons aboueſayd, he willeth that they ſhall ceaſe from the exerciſe of their eſtates and offices, vntil he otherwiſe appointeth. And bicauſe that in many places of the Realme they haue proceeded by way of ſeaſing the goods of them of the newe Religion which be deade or abſente, and hide themſelues: and ſometymes of thoſe which be in their owne houſes, although his Maieſtie gaue to vnderſtande by his declaration of the xxviij. of Auguſt laſt, that he would and intended that they of the new Religion ſhould enioy their goods, neuertheleſſe, to the intent there ſhould be no doubt of his purpoſe, and that no miſtruſt might ariſe therupon, he declareth, willeth, and intendeth againe, that according to his declaration of the xxviij. of Auguſt, they of the newe Religion which be lyuing, whether they be preſent or abſent, and be not culpable or charged with the laſt conſpiration, or to haue attempted againſt his Maieſtie or his

eſtate, ſince his Edict of Pacification, ſhalbe reſtored to their houſes, and put in poſſeſſion of all & ſingular their goode; moueable or vnmoueable. And that the wydowes and heyres of them that be deade, may and ſhall ſuccede them, and apprehend all and ſingular their goodes, and that they ſhal be mainteined in them, and kepte vnder the protection and ſafegard of his Maieſtie, ſo that no hurte ſhalbe done or ſayd vnto them in any maner of wyſe or ſort. VVilling for this purpoſe that all neceſſarie ſuretie ſhal be giuen them, and that all officers, Magiſtrates, Mayors and others which haue publike charge ſhall maintaine them in al ſafetie, forbidding al perſons of what eſtate, qualitie or condition ſo euer they be, not to hurt them in perſon or goodes vppon paine of death. And neuertheleſſe his Maieſtie willeth, that they of the newe opinion ſhall ſubmit themſelues, and promiſe vpon paine to be declared rebells and traitours to his Maieſtie, that they ſhall hereafter liue vnder his obedience without attempting any thing to the contrarie, or taking their parts that do attempt againſt his Maieſtie and eſtate, or things againſt his ordinances, and to acknowledge none but his Maieſtie or ſuch as he ſhall appoint vnder him to haue authoritie to commaund them. And if they knowe any that ſhall enterpriſe a-

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gainſt his Maieſtie, and ſeruice, to reueale them incontinent to him and his officers, as good and faithfull ſubiects. And to take away all doubte and ſuſpicion as wel from the nobilitie as others, becauſe that in the declaration of the xxiiij. of the laſt moneth, theſe wordes are contained (Except they be thoſe of the chiefe, which had commaundement for thoſe of the newe opinion, or thoſe which made practiſes and deuiſes for them, or thoſe which might haue had intelligence of the ſayd conſpiracie.) His Maieſtie declareth that he meaneth not of things done and paſt during the troubles which were before the Edict of Pacification in Auguſt. 1570. & that there ſhalbe no inquiſitiõ therof, and none ſhall be troubled in goods or perſon therfore (but for that reſpect they ſhall enioy the benefit of the Edict of Pacification) but that the ſayd wordes extend onely to thoſe which be found to be giltie or acceſſarie to the laſt conſpiracie done againſt his Maieſtie and eſtate, and that other which are impriſoned, ſhall be ſet at libertie. And as touching them which will make profeſſion of their faith, and returne to the Catholike Religion, his Maieſtie deſireth that his gouernours and officers ſhall excyte and comforte them as muche as they can, to that effect, and executiõ of that good

will: and that their friends and kinsfolks should also be exhorted to doe the like for their parte. And if any should hurt them in goods or body, his Maiestie willeth readie and speedie execution to be done on them. And to the intent that they may followe the fourme which hath bene kept, in professing the faith which they doe make that returne to the Apostolike and Romishe Churche, there is sent herewith a memorie thereof. From Paris the xxij. day of Septēber. 1572. Signed, CHARLES, and beneath PINART.

THE FOVRME OF ABIVRATION of heresie, & confessiō of faith, which they which haue swarued from the faith, and pretende to be receyued into the Church, ought to make.

THIS IS THE ABIVRATION which they caused all of the Religion to make in France, to saue their liues. Printed at Paris by Nicolas Roffet, dwelling in the new streate of our Ladie, at the signe of the Mower: with the Kings Priuilege.

FIrst, they whiche haue swarued from the faith, and desire to returne into the com-

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pelle of our holy mother Church, ought to present themselues to their Curates or vicars to be instructed of that which they ought to doe: that done, they shall be sent vnto the reuerend Bysshop of the dioces or his Chauncellour or officiall, to make the sayd Abiuration and confession in maner and forme following.

I N. borne at. &c. in the dioces of. &c. and dwelling. &c. acknowledging by the grace of God the true faith Catholike and Apostolike from the which I haue through my fault gone astray and separated my selfe since. &c. and desirous to returne to the flocke of Christes true shepefold, which is the Catholike, Apostolike, and Romish Church, confesse to haue Abiured and cursed all the errours and heresie of the Lutherians, Caluinistes, and Hugonotes, and all other heresie whatsoeuer wherwith I haue heretofore beene diffamed or touched: and I agree to the fayth of our holy mother the Churche, and desire you in the name of God, of his sonne Iesus Church, and of the glorious Virgin his mother Marie, and of all the Saincts of Paradice, that it woulde please you to receiue me into the flocke and shepefolde of Gods people, which liue vnder

the obedience of the Pope ordained our Sauiour Iesus Christs vicar in the sayd Church, submitting my selfe paciently to abyde and willingly to doe the pennance which it shall please you to enioyne me for the absolution of my faults committed, whileſt I was in the foresayd sectes, whereof I aske and require pardon of God, and of his sayd Churche, and of you (that be appoynted my pastor by God the Creator) absolution, with such penance as you shall iudge to be holsome for the satisfaction of my sinnes and offences. And to the intent you shoulde knowe that I haue and doe make this Abiuration from my heart, I confesse moreouer before God and you, that I beleeue that which is contayned in the Simbole or Creede of the Apostles, and Athanasius, and other confessions of faith made and approued by the whole Councels of the Catholike, Apostolike, and Romish Church: that is: I beleeue in one onely God, the father almightie, Creator of Heauen and Earth, and of all things visible and inuisible, and in one L. our Lord Iesus Christ, the onely sonne engendred by God the father before the constitucion of the worlde, God of God, Light of Light, true God of true God, engendred not

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Created, Consubstantiall with the Father by whom all things were made, who for vs mē, and for our saluation, descended from heauen. &c. *as in the beliefe of Morning prayer.* I beleeue likewise, acknowledge and confesse all that which is contayned in the bookes as well of the olde as of the newe testament, approued by the sayde holie and Apostolike church of Rome, according to the sense & interpretation of the holy Doctours receiued by the same, reiecting all other interpretation as false and erroneous. I acknowledge the seuen Sacramentes of the sayde Catholike, Apostolike and Romishe Churche, that they were instituted by our L. Iesus Christ, and that they be necessarie for the saluation of mankind, although that all of them are not of necessitie to be conferred to all, that is to say. I confesse that the sayd seuen Sacramentes are these, *Baptisme, Confirmation, Eucharist* which is the Sacrament of the altar, *Penance, extreme vnction, Order, and Mariage*, and that the sayd Sacraments confer grace, & that of them, Baptisme, Confirmatiō, & Order, can not be reiterated without sacrilege. That the sayd Sacraments haue the effect whiche the sayd Church teacheth, and that the forme &

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vſage wherwith they be miniſtred to Chriſtians, is holie and neceſſarie. I acknowledge alſo that the holy Maſſe is a ſacrifice and oblation of the verie bodie and bloud of our ſauiour Ieſus Chriſt vnder the forme of bread and wyne mingled with water, whiche ſubſtaunces of bread and wyne vnder the ſayde formes (are in the Maſſe by the words which ſerue for conſecration, ſayd and pronounced by the Prieſt) tranſubſtanciated and tranſformed into the ſubſtance of the ſayd body and blood of Ieſus Chriſt. Notwithſtanding, that the qualities and accidentes remayne in the ſayd formes after the ſayd conſecration, and that the Maſſe is holeſome and profitable as well for the quicke as the deade. I acknowledge and confeſſe the cõcomitance, that is to ſay, that in receiuing the body of Ieſus chriſt vnder the forme of bread alone, I likewiſe receiue the blood of Ieſus Chriſt. I confeſſe that Prayer and interceſsion of Sainctes for the quicke and the dead is holie, good and helthfull for Chriſtians, and is not contrary (for any reſpect) to the glory of God. That prayers made in the Churche for the faithfull which are dead, do profit them for the remiſſion of their ſinnes, and leſſening of their

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paines incurred for the same. That there is a Purgatorie where the soules abyding are succoured by the prayers of the faythfull. I confesse that we muste honor and call vpon the sainctes which raigne with Iesus Christ, and that they make intercession for vs to God, & that their Reliques are to be worshipped. That the commaundements and traditions of the Catholike, Apostolike, and Romishe Church as well they which pertaine to the forme and ceremonies of diuine seruice, and to assist the same, which I thinke be to drawe Christian people to pitie and turning to their God, as fasting, absteyning from meates, obseruation of holy dayes, and ecclesiasticall pollicie, according to the tradition of the Apostles and holy Fathers continued since the primitiue Church till this time, and afterwards brought into the Church by the ordinances of Counsels receiued in the same of long and auncient time, or of late, be good and holy, to the whiche I will and ought to obey as prescribed & appointed by the holy ghost, the author and director of that which serueth for the keping of Christian Religion, and of the Catholike, Apostolike, and Romaine Church. I beleeue also and accepte all the articles of originall

ſinne, and of Iuſtification. I affirme aſſuredly that we ought to haue and kepe the Images of Ieſus Chriſt, of his holy mother, and all other ſaincts, and doe honor and reuerence vnto them. I confeſſe the power of indulgence and pardons to be left in the Church by Ieſus Chriſt, and the vſe of the to be verie healthfull, as alſo I acknowledge and confeſſe the Church of Rome to be the mother and chief of all Churches, and conducted by the holy ghoſt: and that other pretended particular inſpirations againſt the ſame, come of the ſuggeſtion of the Deuill, the Prince of diſſention, which woulde ſeparate the vnion of the myſticall body of the ſauiour of the worlde. Finally, I promiſe ſtraightly to keepe all that was ordayned at the laſt generall councell of Trent, and promiſe to God and you, neuer more to depart from the Catholike, Apoſtolike, and Romaine Church: and if I do (which God forbid) I ſubmit my ſelfe to the penalties of the canons of the ſayd Church, made, ordeyned, and appointed againſt them which fall backe into Apoſtaſie. The which Abiuration and Confeſsion I haue ſubſcribed.

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THE KINGES LETTER TO M. de Guyse and other Lieutenantes and Gouernors of his Prouinces, by the which he wholly aboliſheth and ſubuerteth al the Edictes of Pacification, and willeth that onely the Romiſhe Religion ſhoulde take place in his Realme.

THe King knowing that the declaration which be made vpon the occaſions which lately chaun ted in the Citie of Paris, the remebrances and inſtructios of his will which be ſent round about to all Gouernours of his Prouinces, and Lieutenants generall therin, and particular letters to the Seneſhals, and his Courts of Parliament, and other officers and Miniſters of Iuſtice, can not hitherto ſtaye the courſe of murders and robberies done in the moſt part of the cities of this Realme, to his Maieſties great diſpleaſure: hath aduiſed for a more ſingular remedie, to ſend all the ſayde Gouernours into euery of their charges and gouernements, aſſuring him ſelfe, that according to the qualitie and power which they haue of his Maieſtie, they can well followe and obſerue his intent, the which more fully to declare, his Maieſtie hath cauſed his letters patentes to be diſpatched, which ſhal be deliuered them. Beſides the

contentes wherof M. de Guise the gouernour, & Lieutenant generall for his Maiestie in Champaigne and Brye, shall call before him the gentlemen of the newe Religion abyding within his gouernement, and shall tell them that the Kings wil and intent is to preserue them, their wyues, children and families, and to mayntaine them in possession of their goods, so that on their parte they liue quietly, and render to his Maiestie obedience and fidelitie as they ought: in which doyng the King also will defende them, that they shall not be molested or troubled by waye of Iustice or otherwise in their persons and goods, by reason of things done during the troubles, and before the Edict of Pacification of August 1570. And afterwardes he shall louingly admonishe them to continue no longer in the Error of the newe opinions, and to returne to the Catholike Religion, reconciling themselues to the Catholike Romishe Church, vnder the doctrine and obedience wherof, Kings his predecessors and their subiects haue alwayes holily lyued, and this Realme hath ben carefully conducted and maintained: Shewing to thē the mischiefes and calamities which haue happened in this Realme, since these newe opinions haue entred into mens spirites: Howe manye murders haue bene caused by such which haue fallen from

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the right waye holden by their Auncestors. First they made them separate themselues from the Churche, then from their nexte of kinred, and also so to be estranged from the seruice of their king, as a man may see since his raigne. And although the authors and heades of that side, would haue couered their doyngs vnder the title of Religion and conscience: yet their deedes and workes haue shewen well inough that the name of Religion was but a visarde to couer their driftes and disobedience, and vnder that pretence to assemble and subborne people, and to make and compel them to sweare in the cause vnder the title of disobedience, and by sucke wayes to turne them from the naturall affection which they owe to the King, and consequently from his obedience, being notorious that what commaundement so euer the King could make to them of the newe Religion, they haue not since his raigne obeyed him otherwise than pleased their heads. And contrariwise, when their sayd heads commaunded them to arise and take to their weapons, to set vpon Cities, to burne Churches, to sacke and pill, to trouble the Realme and fill it with bloud and fire, they which went so astray to follow them, forgot all trust and duetie of good subiects, to execute and obey their commaūdements. Which things if the gen-

tlemen will well consider, they shall easily iudge how vnhappie and miserable their condition shalbe, if they continue longer therein. For they may well thinke of them selues, that the king being taught by experience of so great a daunger, from the which it hath pleased God to preserue him and his estate, and hauing proued the mischiefes and calamities which this Realme hath suffred by the enterprises of the heads of this cause, their adherentes and complices, that he will neuer willingly be serued with any gentleman of his subiects that be of any other Religion than the Catholike, in the whiche also the king, following his predecessors, will liue and die. He willeth also to take away all mistrust amongst his subiects, and to quench the rising of discordes and seditions, that all they of whom he is serued in honorable places, and specially the gentlemen which desire to be accompted his good and lawfull subiects, and would obtaine his fauour, and be employed in charges of his seruice, according to their degrees and qualities, do make profession hereafter to liue in the same Religion that he doth: hauing tryed that discords and ciuill warres will not cease in a state where there be many Religions, and that it is not possible for a King to maintaine in his Realme diuersities in Religion, but that he shall leese the

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good will and beneuolence of his ſubiectes, yea and they which are of a contrarie Religion to his, deſire nothing in their hart more than the change of the King and of his eſtate. For the reaſon aboue ſayde, the Duke of Guiſe, to bring the matter to this paſſe, ſhall take paines to perſuade the nobilitie and others infected with the ſayde new opinion, to returne of themſelues, and of their owne frewill to the Catholike Religion, and to abiure and renounce the new without any more expreſſe commaundement from the King. For how ſo euer it be, his maieſtie is reſolued to make his ſubiects liue in his Religion, and neuer to ſuffer what ſo euer may betyde, that there ſhall be any other forme or exerciſe of Religion in his Realme than the Catholike. The ſayd Duke of Guiſe ſhall communicate with the Principall officers and Magiſtrates, hauing the Principall charge and adminiſtration of Iuſtice in Cities of his gouernment, his Maieſties declaration, to the intent they ſhould know his minde, and the good end whereunto he tendeth for the vniting and quietneſſe of his ſubiects, to the intent the ſayd M. de Guiſe & the ſayd officers and Magiſtrates, ſhould with one concorde, intelligence and correſpondence proceede to the effect aboue ſayde, ſo that fruit and quietneſſe may thereof enſue, ſuch as his Maieſtie deſireth,

desireth, not onely for himselfe, but for the whole Realme. The Baylifes and stuardes which are not in Religion accordingly qualified, shall within one moneth resigne their offices to gentlemen capable, and of the qualitie required by the Edict, which may keepe and exercise the same. And to the intent this should be done, his Maiestie doth nowe presently declare them deprived after the sayd moneth, if they do not then resigne, that they shall haue no occasion or colour of excuse to delay their resignations, and yet permitteth them in the meane while to resigne without any fyne paying. All Baylifes and stuardes shal be resident at their offices vpon paine of losse of the same, & if they can not so be, thē they shall be boūd to resigne. All Archbyshops and Bishops shall likewise be resident in their dioces, and such as for age and other disposition of person can not preach the word of God, nor edifie the people, and do other functions appertaining to their charge and dignitie, shall be bounde to take a conductor to comfort them, and to employ themselues to the duetie of their charge. To the which conductour they shall appoint an honest and reasonable pension according to the fruites and reuenue of their liuing. Also persons and vicars shall be resident at their benefices, or else shall be admonished to resigne them

to suche as will be resident, and doe their duetie. Archbyshops and Byshops shall take information of them which holde abbeyes, Prioryes, and other benefices in their dioces, of what qualitie soeuer they are, and how they do their duetie in the administration of them, whereupon they shall make processe by worde vnto the Gouernours, which shall sende them to the King to prouide therin as reason shall moue him. They shall compell the Curates actually to abide at the places of their benefices, or else shall appoint other in their steades according to the disposition of the Canons. At Paris the .iij. day of Nouember 1572. Signed, CHARLES.

LETTERS OF M. DE GORDS the Kings Lieutenaunt in Daulphine, to certaine of the Religion in his gouernement, wherby he exhorteth them to come backe againe to the Religion of Rome, & how the King is determined to suffer none other.

SIr I am sufficiently aduertised of you behauior, but you should remember what aduertisements I haue before sent you to returne to the Catholike Religion of your selfe, which is the best hold

and stay that you can chose for your preseruation and health, putting from you all those which perswade you to the contrary, who would abyde to see any commotion or disorder rather than abate any poynt of their opinion. And by this meanes you shall make euident to the King, the will which you say you haue to obey his Maiestie, counsailing you for as much as I desire your well doing, that this is the best for you to do, without taking for any more open commaundement: otherwise assure your selfe, there can but euill come of it, and that his Maiestie would be obeyed. And thus I pray God to aduise you and giue you his holye grace. From Grenoble the sixt of Decẽber 1572. Your entire good friend, GORDES.

THE ANSVVERE OF THE Gentlemen, Capitaines, Bugeses, and other being in the towne of Rochell, to the commaundementes that haue bene giuen them in the name of the King, to receiue garrisons.

WE the Gentlemen, Capitaines, Burgeses and other nowe being in this towne of Rochell, doe giue answere to you Mounsier N. and to suche commaundementes as you giue vs in the name of his

his Maiestie, that we can not acknowledge that that which is signified vnto vs, and the Proclamation which you require that we should cause to be published, do proceede from his Maiestie. And thereof we call to witnesse his Maiestie himselfe, his lettens of the xxij. and xxiiij. of August, his owne signet, and the publishing of the same letters, by the which his sayd Maiestie layeth all the fault of all the trouble lately happened, and of the cruell slaughter done at Paris, vpon those of the house of Guise, protesting that he had enough to doe to keepe himselfe safe within his Castell of Louure with those of his Garde. And we shall neuer suffer our selues to be persuaded that so foule an enterprise and so barberous a slaughter hath at any time entred into the mind of his Maiestie, much lesse that the same hath bene done by his expresse commaundement, as the paper importeth which you haue exhibited vnto vs, nor that his Maiestie hath bene so ill aduised, as himself to cut of his owne armes, or to defile the sacred Wedding of Madame his owne sister with the sheding of so much noble and innocent bloud, and with the shame of so cruell a fact to disteine the nation of Fraunce and the bloud royall which hath heretofore euer among all nations borne the name of franke and courteous: nor that he hath had minde

to deliuer matter to writers to set forth a tragicall historie, such as antiquitie hath neuer herd speake of the like, and such as posteritie can not reporte without horror. But that it was first layd at Rome, and afterward hatched at Paris, by the authors of all the troubles of Fraunce. And how soeuer it be, we are readie to maintaine that out of the mouth of his Maiestie doth not proceede bote & cold, white and black, & that he doth not nowe say one thing and by and by an other, as he should do if the paper that you present vnto vs had passed from him, protesting that he will inuiolably keepe his Edict, and immediatly breaking the same in declaring that he commaunded those murders to be committed, hauing also made protestation before, that it is to his great griefe, and done by the outrage and violence of those of Guise against whom he was not able to make speedie resistance in time as his Maiestie desired. And in this quarell, we the Gentlemen, Capitaines, and other that make you this answere, are readie to trie it by combat man to man, or otherwyse, to maintaine the honour of our King against all those that so prophane holy things, and as much as in them lyeth do by such wordes and titles vilainously defile the excellence of his Maiestie and of the noble Princes of his bloude. Which wee

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maye righte well coniecture and estimate, by the slaughters that are yet in doing, as well in the towne of Paris as elsewhere, vpon so many noblemen, gentlemen and other, men, women and children, and vpon a great number of yong scholars (the maintenance vnder God, of Realmes and common weales in time to come) and by many other barbarous, vnnaturall and vnmanly actes generally committed. We thinke therfore & iudge that herein treason is enterprised against the person of his Maiestie and of my lords his brethren, & that the Guisians meane to inuade the Crowne of the Realme as they haue of long time practised, and how so euer it be, we say that his Maiestie is forced by the power that they haue taken vpon them and vsurped by meane of the rebellious stirre of the commons of Paris. As for that which they saye that the Admirall and those of the Religion had conspired against the Kings Maiestie and his brethren, these be allegations of as great truth and of as good likehoode, as their maner of proceeding in iustice hath bene orderly, beginning at executiō before examination of the fact. But it is now no neede to tarrie for time to discouer it, for the matter is plain to be seen with eye and groped with hand, and all those of the Romishe Religion that haue remaining any droppe

of nature of men, doe confesse it and hold downe their heads for shame, cursing both with hart & mouth the cruell executers of this abhominable enterprise, and the wicked disturbers of common quiet, which can yet no more suffer, than they heretofore haue done, that this poore Realme shoulde long enioye the benefite of that peace, which the King alone next vnder God, had wisely caused to be made and to be accordingly obserued, whereof this Realme began to feele the good taste, to the great contentment of all persons, except the enimies of peace and of this Realme, namely the Guisians. Finally, when his Maiestie being oute of their handes and power shall declare what is his pleasure, we will endeuour vs to obey him in all things, wherin our consciences, which are dedicate to God alone, shall not be wounded, in which case we will rather forsake the earth than heauen, and our fraile and transitorie houses rather than the heauenly mansons. But hetherto, the lawe of nature, and the duetie that we owe to our naturall Prince, to the preseruation of his Crowne, and to the safetie of our lyues, oure wiues and children, doth commaund vs to stand vpon our garde, and not to put vs in the mercie of those that haue receiued the same bloody commission from the Guisians vnder the pretended name of the King, to

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vse vs in the same manner as they haue wickedly, traitorously and vnnaturally done to those about his Maiestie, and as it were vnder his wings and vnder the skirtes of his robe, which the traitors strãgers haue stained with the true French blood, without that his Maiestie hath bene able to remedie it, nor to staye their cursed attemptes: so much lesse is he able now so farre off to defend vs as he would, which his Maiesties good wil being knowne vnto vs, doth arme vs for our defence, and for the safegarde of our liues, and of the priuileges which he hath giuen vs, vntill such time as he shal be able by himself to defende vs against his enimies and ours.